Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-93-197
Thursday
14 October 1993

Daily Report
Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-93-197 14 October 1993

CONTENTS

RUSSIA INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Kozyrev To Seek Understanding With Japan on Kurils *[ITAR-TASS]* 1
Gaydar Explains 'Success' of Yeltsin Visit *[ITAR-TASS]* 1
Yeltsin Returns to Moscow From Japan *[ITAR-TASS]* 1
Foreign Ministry Aide Sees 'Turning Point' in Japan Ties *[Moscow TV]* 1
Commentator Notes Achievements of Yeltsin Visit *[Moscow International]* 1
Kozyrev 'Concerned' Over DPRK's Delay in Returning to NPT *[ITAR-TASS]* 2
DPRK Envoy Says Country Eager To Begin Nuclear Talks *[ITAR-TASS]* 2
Scientist Urges 'Political Response' to PRC Test *[IZVESTIYA 13 Oct]* 2
India's Dixit Holds News Conference on Visit's Results *[INTERFAX]* 3
Shokhin, Moldovan Counterpart Comment on Talks *[Russian TV]* 3
Central Bank Denies Freezing All Dniester Accounts *[ITAR-TASS]* 3
Yeltsin Envoy Discusses Issue of Leasing Georgian Port *[INTERFAX]* 4
Diplomat on Possible Fate of Bosnia Settlement Plan *[INTERFAX]* 4
Communications Minister Pays Visit to Cyprus *[ITAR-TASS]* 4
Comments on Talks *[ITAR-TASS]* 5
Deputy Minister Meets French Ministers, Industrialists *[ITAR-TASS]* 5
Libyan Embassy Protests Description of 'Terrorists' *[IZVESTIYA 13 Oct]* 5
Yeltsin Orders Payment of Debt to UN, CSCE *[ITAR-TASS]* 6
Churkin on Impact on European Stability of Enlarging NATO *[INTERFAX]* 6
New NATO Commander in Europe Profiled *[IZVESTIYA 6 Oct]* 6
NATO's Woerner Wants 'Strategic Partnership' *[IZVESTIYA 9 Oct]* 6

RUSSIA NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political Issues

'Sources' Claim Yeltsin Preparing Referendum on Constitution *[ITAR-TASS]* 7
Constitutional Conference's Schedule Outlined *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 13 Oct]* 7
To Reopen 15 Oct *[INTERFAX]* 7
Effectiveness of Conference Viewed *[KOMMERSANT-DAILY 14 Oct]* 7
'Disbandment' of Security Ministry Seen Likely *[MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS 14 Oct]* 8
Yerin Rumored To Become Security Minister *[KURANTY 14 Oct]* 8
Shakhray Reportedly Considers Resignation *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 13 Oct]* 8
To Stand for Parliament *[Radio Rossii]* 9
Shumeyko Notes Impending 'Structural Changes' in Executive Bodies *[ITAR-TASS]* 9
Filatov Claims Society 'Purifying' Itself *[INTERFAX]* 9
Yeltsin Adviser Discusses Authoritarianism, Elections *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 13 Oct]* 10
Yeltsin Adviser Views 'Revolt,' Current Situation *[Berlin DIE TAGESZEITUNG 12 Oct]* 11
Former Foreign Trade Minister Explains Resignation *[INTERFAX]* 13
Prosecutor Kazannik Interviewed on Background, Tasks *[IZVESTIYA 13 Oct]* 13
Reshuffling in Prosecutor's Office Assessed *[KOMMERSANT-DAILY 13 Oct]* 16
Charges To Be Brought Against Makashov *[INTERFAX]* 16
Terekhov Charged Under Three Articles of Criminal Code *[IZVESTIYA 13 Oct]* 17
Investigation of Corruption Charges Against Rutskoy Continues *[INTERFAX]* 17
Photographs, Video Footage of Moscow Violence Sought *[IZVESTIYA 13 Oct]* 18
Proposed Special Status for Moscow Decried *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 14 Oct]* 18
State of Emergency Used To 'Cleanse' Moscow of Criminals *[INTERFAX]* 19
Amendments Proposed to Criminal Justice Law *[INTERFAX]* 19
Media Presence at 1991 Putsch Trial Described *[ITAR-TASS]* 19
Acting Chairman Examines Future of Constitutional Court *[INTERFAX]* 19
Membership, Tasks of Commission on Local Government Detailed *[ITAR-TASS]* 20
Panel on Former Deputies Meets *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 13 Oct]* 20

Ex-Supreme Soviet Staff Seeks Federal Assembly Jobs *[Moscow Radio]* 21
Chernomyrdin Receives Youth Representatives *[ITAR-TASS]* 21
Council of Ministers Issues Directives *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 12 Oct]* 21
Yeltsin Edicts, Government Directives Detailed *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 13 Oct]* 21
Shoygu Named Head of Commission for Disaster Relief *[ITAR-TASS]* 22
Communist Leader Assails Yeltsin 'Dictatorship' *[Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 11 Oct]* 22
New Movement Created, Decries 'Dictatorship' *[Russian TV]* 23
Muscovites Polled on State of Emergency, Elections *[KOMMERSANT-DAILY 13 Oct]* 24
Polled on Storming of White House *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 13 Oct]* 24
'Conspiracy' Still Seen as Threat *[IZVESTIYA 13 Oct]* 24
'Social Decomposition' Blamed for Recent Events *[MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI 17 Oct]* 27
Intelligence Officer Claims Yeltsin Set 'Trap' for Rutskoy *[MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI 17 Oct]* .. 28

Military Issues

Threat of 'Purge' in Defense Ministry Assessed *[KURANTY 14 Oct]* 30
Rumors of Purge Denied *[Radio Rossii]* 30
3 Cordons Around White House To Stop Looting *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 13 Oct]* 30
Increased Camp Security Not Due To Threats *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 13 Oct]* 31

Election Issues

Shumeyko Discusses Election Issues *[Radio Rossii]* 31
Commission's 'Scheme' for Duma Election Outlined *[ITAR-TASS]* 31
Justice Ministry Draws Up List of Election Participants *[ITAR-TASS]* 32
Parties, Associations Listed *[ITAR-TASS]* 32
Parties Jockey While Drawing Up Election Tickets *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 13 Oct]* 33
IZVESTIYA Profiles Parties, Election Blocs *[13 Oct]* 34
More Profiles *[IZVESTIYA 14 Oct]* 36
Burbulis Outlines 'Values' of 'Russia's Choice' *[INTERFAX]* 38
Yeltsin Invited to 'Russia's Choice' Inaugural Congress *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 13 Oct]* 38
Businessmen Hold Congress, Prepare for Election *[ITAR-TASS]* 38
'Russia's Women' To Nominate Candidates *[ITAR-TASS]* 39
LDPR Nominates 160 Candidates for Election *[Moscow Radio]* 39
Opposition Makes Plans for Election *[KOMMERSANT-DAILY 13 Oct]* 39

Media Issues

PRAVDA Finds 'Ultimatum' Terms 'Unacceptable' *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 14 Oct]* 40
Kiselev's 'Itogi' Praised for Professionalism *[KOMMERSANT-DAILY 12 Oct]* 40
Shumeyko Congratulates Broadcasters on Crisis Coverage *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 9 Oct]* 41
Ostankino Chairman Defends Actions During Attack *[IZVESTIYA 13 Oct]* 41
3-5 Oct Casualty Figures for Russian, Foreign Journalists *[IZVESTIYA 13 Oct]* 43

Economic Issues

Soskovets on Shape of New Industrial Policy *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 13 Oct]* 43
Military Industry To Be Harnessed To Boost Countryside *[Russian TV]* 46
Fedorov Comments on Credit Growth, Budget *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 13 Oct]* 46
Governmental Commission To Promote Privatization *[ITAR-TASS]* 47
Official Explains Central Bank Hard Currency Ban *[Russian TV]* 47
Rise in Interest Rates on Term Deposits Clarified *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 12 Oct]* 48
MICEX Currency Forecast Warns of Hyperinflation *[ITAR-TASS]* 48
Gold Sale 'Civilized' Way To Cover Budget Deficit *[IZVESTIYA 12 Oct]* 49
Former Leadership Blamed for Pension Fund Shortfall *[IZVESTIYA 12 Oct]* 49
Bread Prices Deregulated; Famine Ruled Out *[Moscow TV]* 49
Many Crops Remain Unharvested; Payment Arrears Continue *[IZVESTIYA 13 Oct]* 50

Regional Issues

Regions Debate Yeltsin's Call for Dissolution of Soviets 50

Northern Soviets To Self-Dissolve *[Radio Rossii]* 50
Rostov Soviet To Stay; Tula Disbands *[Radio Rossii]* 50
Rally Urges Mordovia Parliament Dissolution *[INTERFAX]* 50
Amur Head Assumes Control *[INTERFAX]* 51
Kemerovo Soviet Ordered Disbanded *[Radio Rossi]* 51
Khakass Parliament Against Dissolution *[ITAR-TASS]* 51
Smolensk Soviet Suspended *[Moscow Radio]* 51
Murmansk Chief Bans Soviets *[INTERFAX]* 51
Novosibirsk Regional Soviet Backtracks on Yeltsin Decree *[INTERFAX]* 51
Regions Discuss Reform of Local Bodies *[ITAR-TASS]* 52
Bashkortostan Parliament Reverses Anti-Yeltsin Decisions *[ITAR-TASS]* 52
Republics Unhappy With Yeltsin's Edicts *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 13 Oct]* 52
Bashkortostan Discusses 'Sovereignization' *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 12 Oct]* 53
Chelyabinsk Governor Takes Over Pending Election *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 13 Oct]* 53
Regions Gearing Up for Scheduled Local, Duma Elections *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 12 Oct]* 54
More Regions Prepare for Elections *[ITAR-TASS]* 54
Khabarovsk Adopts Election Decisions *[Khabarovsk Radio]* 55
Sakhalin Council Orders Elections *[INTERFAX]* 55
Karelia To Hold Referendum, Elections *[INTERFAX]* 56
Stavropol Prepares for Election *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 12 Oct]* 56
Chechnya To Boycott Elections *[ITAR-TASS]* 56
Chechen Rally in Support of Khasbulatov Dispersed *[ITAR-TASS]* 57
N. Caucasus Disarmament, Reconciliation Efforts Continue *[IZVESTIYA 13 Oct]* 57
Shooting Reported in North Ossetia *[ITASR-TASS]* 57
Yeltsin Appoints Permanent Representative in Mordovia *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 13 Oct]* 58
Dismisses Head of Belgorod *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 13 Oct]* 58
Yeltsin Aide Says Maritime Kray Leaders Corrupt *[Radio Rossii]* 58
Government To Subsidize Energy Costs *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 12 Oct]* 58
Leningrad Oblast Workers Declare Food Blockade *[Moscow Radio]* 59
Gorbachev 'Scandal' Used in Stavropol Governorship Bid *[IZVESTIYA 13 Oct]* 59

UKRAINE

International Affairs

Kravchuk Approves Directives for Black Sea Fleet Talks *[UNIAN]* 60
Leftists' Role in Moscow Events Assessed 60
IZVESTIYA Report *[13 Oct]* 60
Commentary in Kiev Paper *[UNIAN OHLYADY, KOMENTARI, PROHNOZY 11 Oct]* 61
Support From Crimean Russians *[RADA 7 Oct]* 61
Kravchuk Promises Aid for Georgia; Military Exports Viewed *[MOLOD UKRAYINY 12 Oct]* 62
Georgian Official Thanks Kravchuk for Assistance *[KYYIVSKA PRAVDA 8 Oct]* 62
Deputy Premier, Syrian Minister Discuss Barter Agreement *[UNIAN]* 62
Foreign Ministry Delegation Holds Talks in Romania *[Kiev International]* 62
Kravchuk Approves Composition of EC Affairs Group *[UNIAN]* 63

National Affairs

Defense Minister Discusses New Navy Commander *[ITAR-TASS]* 63
Says Navy To Be Based in Sevastopol *[INTERFAX]* 63
Navy Commander Rejects Conflict With Black Sea Fleet *[UNIAN]* 63
Outlines Priority Tasks *[Kiev International]* 63
New Navy Commander, Defense Minister Profiled *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 13 Oct]* 64
Commentary Sees Danger in Morozov's Removal *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 6 Oct]* 64
Decree Creates Fund for Consolidating Defense Capacity *[UNIAN]* 65
Edict Approves Temporary Statutes for Armed Forces *[URYADOVYY KURYER 9 Oct]* 65
Kravchuk Discusses Privatization, Coal Industry Problems *[UNIAN]* 65
Opposes Immediate Price Deregulation *[INTERFAX]* 66
Envoy to Canada To Return To Form Election Coalition *[UNIAN]* 66
Report Details Work of Supreme Council Session *[NARODNA ARMIYA 6 Oct]* 66

WESTERN REGION

Belarus

Proposal Urges Minsk's Housing CIS Coordinating Bodies *[Moscow TV]* 68
Shushkevich Signs Protocol *[INTERFAX]* 68
Talks Continue With Russia on Military Defense *[ITAR-TASS]* 68
Belarus, Russia Discuss Former USSR Property *[INTERFAX]* 68
Russian Envoy Calls Talks With Belarus 'Fruitful' *[Radio Rossii]* 69
'Huge Crowd' Attends Funeral of Colonel Killed in Moscow *[RID]* 69
Shushkevich Comments on Council of Europe Meeting *[Minsk Radio]* 69
Assesses Chances for Joining Council *[ITAR-TASS]* 70
Foreign Minister Kravchencko Begins Visit to UK *[ITAR-TASS]* 70
Meets UK Foreign Secretary *[ITAR-TASS]* 70
Premier Kebich Postpones Visit to RSA *[INTERFAX]* 70
CIS Countries Fail To Honor Supply Agreements *[ITAR-TASS]* 70
Documents on Property Rights With Ukraine Exchanged *[Minsk Radio]* 71
KGB Complains of Foreign Diplomats' Espionage *[IZVESTIYA 9 Oct]* 71
Report on 'Espionage' Criticized *[Minsk Radio]* 71
Expert Casts Doubt on Second Stage of Arms Reduction *[INTERFAX]* 71
Kozlovskiy Conducts Mechanized Brigade Military Exercise *[Minsk Radio]* 72
Belarus Official Comments on Privatization Process *[ZVYAZDA 28 Sep]* 72
Parliament Issues New Decree on Financial Situation *[NARODNAYA GAZETA 25-27 Sep]* 73
Economists Say No Prospects for Economic Development *[FEMIDA 27 Sep-3 Oct]* 74
Fuel Deliveries, Stocks Situation Said 'Critical' *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 9 Oct]* 74

Moldova

Snegur, CSCE Mission Chief Discuss Reform Process *[Bucharest Radio]* 74
Snegur Lauds Yeltsin's 'Defense of Democracy' *[INTERFAX]* 74
Acclaims 'Stifling' of 'Armed Mutiny' *[Bucharest ROMPRES]* 75
Expresses Support for Moscow Government *[BASAPRESS]* 75
Embassy Confirms Dniester Forces in Moscow Events *[Bucharest Radio]* 75
Russian General Investigates Role *[IZVESTIYA 12 Oct]* 76
Corpses of Dniester Citizens Returned *[BASAPRESS]* 76
New Evidence on Tiraspol Involvement *[BASAPRESS]* 76
Lebed Says Dniester 'Commandos' Involved *[BASAPRESS]* 76
14th Army Denies Report *[BASAPRESS]* 77
Prosecutor To Help Investigate Crimes *[Bucharest Radio]* 77
Government Denies Hiding Alksnis, Konstantinov *[ITAR-TASS]* 77
Moscow's Change in Attitude Toward Tiraspol Viewed *[BASAPRESS]* 77
Embassy in Moscow Issues Declaration on Dniester *[BASAPRESS]* 78
Finance Minister Says Russia Provides Bulk of Foreign Loans *[ITAR-TASS]* 78
Foreign Minister Tau Meets With Officials in U.S. *[Bucharest ROMPRES]* 78
Romanian Official Assesses Aid to Chisinau *[BASAPRESS]* 78
Snegur Receives Top Executives of Italian-Swiss Concern *[BASAPRESS]* 79
Snegur Urges Punishment of Corrupt Officials *[INTERFAX]* 79
Snegur Issues Decree on Culture Ministry Reorganization *[BASAPRESS]* 79
Early Parliamentary Elections Scheduled for 27 Feb *[Bucharest Radio]* 79
Group Appeals to Snegur To Make Tiraspol Release Detainees *[BASAPRESS]* 80
Democratic Party Criticizes Government Actions *[BASAPRESS]* 80
Deputies Discuss Election Bill on Proportional System *[INTERFAX]* 80
Energy Prices To Increase by 250 Percent *[BASAPRESS]* 80

CAUCASUS

Armenia

First Deputy Foreign Minister Receives UK's Hogg *[Yerevan Radio]* 81
Ter-Petrosyan, Hogg Discuss Fighting *[INTERFAX]* 81
Russian Mediation Stops Fighting in Karabakh *[Yerevan Radio]* 81

Presidential Spokesman Briefs Journalists on Moscow Talks
[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 13 Oct] 81
Ter-Petrosyan Meets Special CSCE Delegation *[Moscow Radio]* 82
Delegation Ends Visit to Karabakh *[Yerevan Radio]* 82
Official Disputes Azerbaijani Objections to CSCE Plan *[Yerevan Radio]* 82
Azerbaijan Shells Karabakh Border Regions *[Yerevan Radio]* 83
Further on Cease-Fire Violations *[SNARK]* 83
'Pitched Battle' Reported in Nagorno-Karabakh *[INTERFAX]* 83
Tension Continues Along Borders *[Yerevan Radio]* 83
Fighting in Karabakh Reportedly Intensifying *[Yerevan Radio]* 84
Combat Operations Detailed *[Yerevan Radio]* 84

Azerbaijan

U.S. Diplomat Sets Conditions for U.S. Aid *[ITAR-TASS]* 85
Further on Aid, Blockade *[Baku TV]* 85
Armenia's Ter-Petrosyan Sends Congratulations to Aliyev *[Baku Radio]* 86
Defense Ministry Says Armenia Launches Attack in Jebrail *[INTERFAX]* 86
Further on Armenian Cease-Fire Violations *[ITAR-TASS]* 86
Russia Offers Mediation in Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict *[ITAR-TASS]* 86
Russian Envoy Says Peace Prospects 'Good Enough' *[INTERFAX]* 87
UK's Douglas Hogg Meets President Aliyev *[ITAR-TASS]* 87
Meets Gasanov *[Baku TV]* 87
Views Role in Karabakh Settlement *[ITAR-TASS]* 88
Leaders View Relations *[TURAN]* 88
Further on Bilateral Relations *[Baku International]* 88
Karabakh Delays Reply to New CSCE Plan *[INTERFAX]* 89
CSCE Delegation's Visit Viewed *[Baku Radio]* 89
Aliyev Meets CSCE Representative *[ITAR-TASS]* 89
CSCE Sets New Deadline for Warring Parties *[INTERFAX]* 90
2 Nov Date for CSCE Minsk Group 'Too Soon' *[Baku International]* 90
State Adviser Criticizes New Peace Plan *[INTERFAX]* 90
Foreign Ministry Statement on Presidential Elections *[Baku International]* 90
Aliyev Inauguration 10 Oct; Constitution Amended *[ITAR-TASS]* 91
Aliyev Sworn In *[ITAR-TASS]* 91
Aliyev Takes Presidential Oath *[Baku Radio]* 91

Georgia

Shevardnadze Says Most Support CIS Membership *[INTERFAX]* 92
Political Reaction Noted *[CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY]* 92
Foreign Minister on CIS Commitments *[CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY]* 93
Youth Movement Opposes CIS *[CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY]* 93
Republican Party Opposes Membership *[Tbilisi TV]* 93
Joint Action With Russia Not Ruled Out *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 12 Oct]* 93
Pacts Signed on Russian Troops' Status *[Russian TV]* 94
Chikvaidze Denies Arrival of Russian Troops *[Tbilisi Radio]* 94
Shevardnadze Meets U.S. Envoy, Delegation Helping Refugees *[Tbilisi Radio]* 94
Ukrainian Air Force Evacuates 5,000 Refugees From Mountains *[Radio Rossii]* 94
Two Killed in Armed Attack in Western Georgia *[INTERFAX]* 95
Heavy Fighting Said 'Raging' in Samtredia *[Tbilisi TV]* 95
Details of Fighting in West Reported *[Tbilisi Radio]* 95
Gamsakhurdia 'Offensive' Cuts Batumi-Yerevan Rail Link *[INTERFAX]* 95
Shevardnadze Interviewed After Meeting Yeltsin, Others *[Moscow TV]* 95
Grants Interview to Moscow Paper *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 12 Oct]* 96
Shevardnadze Issues Decree on National Guard *[Tbilisi Radio]* 100
On Setting Up Ministry of Security *[Tbilisi Radio]* 100
On New Interior Minister *[Tbilisi TV]* 100
Shevardnadze Meets New Security Service Head *[Tbilisi TV]* 100
Security Chief Vows To Fight Enemies *[INTERFAX]* 100
Abkhaz Delegation Leader on Dispute With Georgia *[Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT 12 Oct]* 101

Kozyrev To Seek Understanding With Japan on Kurils

LD1310143493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1344 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo October 13 ITAR-TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev told ITAR-TASS today that Moscow and Tokyo have agreed to differ on the territorial issue but have shifted the focus from confrontation to the search of mutual understanding. According to the Russian minister this must be seen as one of the most important results of Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Japan, which ended today.

Neither side has given up their principled approaches, but both made correctives enabling them to make headway along all lines. It is not accidental therefore that the territorial issue became just one of the components of the Tokyo declaration of relations between the two countries signed here today.

Russia admits the problem of southern Kurils exists. Over the past fifty years of confrontation both sides have accumulated a great deal of arguments and a mass of documents, which need sorting out from the viewpoint of legality and justice, the minister said.

In other words, the issue has been shifted to the sphere of a serious, honest and confidential talks between the two countries.

Gaydar Explains 'Success' of Yeltsin Visit

LD1310144593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1413 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, October 13 (ITAR-TASS)—One major prerequisite of the success of Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Japan was Tokyo's renunciation of rigid tie-up of politics and economics in relations with Moscow, according to Russian First Vice-Premier Yegor Gaydar.

"All aspects of relations between Russia and Japan are interrelated, and the headway made in solving political problems will undoubtedly create a favorable climate for the development of economic cooperation," Gaydar said. "But here can be no haggling in this sphere. The Russian Government is categorically against any direct tie-up of political and economic problems, any pressure conditioning economic assistance on concessions in the political sphere," Gaydar said.

Tokyo's renunciation of this hardline stand which could not serve as a basis for negotiations made possible constructive dialogue between the two countries, the Russian vice-premier said.

"It is very important that we finally came to separate political and economic issues today," Gaydar stressed.

As concerns economic cooperation between Russia and Japan, Yegor Gaydar stressed that "Russia has already traversed the path where it needed humanitarian aid. We are now interested in one thing—the removal of the barriers which hamper cooperation between the Russian and Japanese business communities. These barriers include political instability and high risks connected with capital investments in Russia and the continuing financial instability in the country, Gaydar said.

Yeltsin Returns to Moscow From Japan

LD1310182893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1809 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lev Grunau]

[Text] Moscow October 13 TASS—Russian Pesident Boris Yeltsin returned to Moscow on Wednesday [13 October] night after paying an official visit to Japan.

Foreign Ministry Aide Sees 'Turning Point' in Japan Ties

LD1410104093 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 0600 GMT 14 Oct 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The Russian Foreign Ministry believes the visit [to Japan by Russian President Boris Yeltsin] will mark a turning point in the development of Russian-Japanese relations. Grigoriy Karasin, director of the Foreign Ministry's information and press department, said this in a conversation with an INTERFAX correspondent.

Commentator Notes Achievements of Yeltsin Visit

OW1410103793 Moscow Radio Moscow in Japanese 1100 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Yuriy Solton commentary]

[Text] President Yeltsin's visit to Japan was short but very successful, as he said at a joint news conference summing up his visit to that country.

Top-level comprehensive talks were held between Russia and Japan for the first time during President Yeltsin's stay in Japan and Emperor Akihito greeted President Yeltsin. President Yeltsin and Prime Minister Hosokawa held talks to discuss in detail bilateral relations and the issue of concluding a peace treaty between the two countries. They noted the need for completely normalizing relations between the two countries, which would greatly contribute to the stability of the international community. At the talks, the Japanese side, believing that Russia should return four southern islands of the Kurils to Japan, clarified its position on the territorial issue. In response, President Yeltsin said Russia will live up to all diplomatic treaties that were concluded between Japan and the Soviet Union, adding the implementation of the 1956 Soviet-Japan communique will hinge on progress in the improvement of bilateral relations. President Yeltsin also emphasized that Russia intends to demilitarize the four islands completely and is already moving toward this.

The Tokyo Declaration, which was signed by leaders of the two countries, announced the two countries' intention and

Japan to normalize their relations completely and conclude a peace treaty transcending the legacies, including the territorial issue, of the past. The declaration stressed that Russia's efforts for democratic and economic reforms are of great significance not only to the Russian people but the whole world. In the Tokyo Declaration, President Yeltsin and Prime Minister Hosokawa recognized the need to expand political dialogue between Russia and Japan by promoting a regular exchange of visits between leaders, foreign ministers, and deputy ministers of the two countries. At the talks, President Yeltsin and Prime Minister Hosokawa agreed to further encourage the exchange of visits between inhabitants on the southern Kurils and the Japanese that is now under way in accordance with an agreement reached between the two countries. A key element of the Tokyo declaration is cooperation between the two countries in ensuring world security, dismantling nuclear weapons, and storing nuclear materials. Russia and Japan will closely discuss the question of monitoring the impact arising from the dumping of radioactive waste into the sea on environment.

Most of the documents signed by Russia and Japan in Tokyo were related to economic matters. The leaders of the two countries agreed on the need for promoting joint projects to revitalize economic relations between the two countries. Eleven priority projects are set to be implemented between Russia and the Japanese enterprises. A communique released on the final day emphasized that Russia will become an aggressive and constructive partner in the Asian and Pacific region, and a complete normalization of Russia-Japan relations will strengthen peace and stability in the region. The two nations reached an important agreement on holding regular intergovernmental talks. Russia and Japan advocated the need to vigorously exchange information to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and conventional weapons. President Yeltsin and Prime Minister Hosokawa expressed concern about a potential nuclear threat from North Korea which is suspected by the international community of trying to use its atomic industry to produce nuclear weapons. They also welcomed a political solution in Cambodia.

At the joint news conference summing up President Yeltsin's visit to Japan, President Yeltsin and Prime Minister Hosokawa expressed their satisfaction with the results of the president's visit to Japan. They also recognized that the two countries have great potential to develop their bilateral relations and advocate easing political and military tensions in the Asian and Pacific region.

Kozyrev 'Concerned' Over DPRK's Delay in Returning to NPT

LD1310165393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1352 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo October 13 ITAR-TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev told ITAR-TASS today that Russia is concerned over North Korea's delay in announcing its return to the fold of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty [NPT].

Kozyrev said the concern was largely due to the Pyongyang stance and recalled that the situation with the breach of the non-proliferation regime arose directly on the border with Russia.

According to the Russian minister this can destabilise the entire region.

Russia cannot let anyone withdraw from the regime of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons with ease and impunity, because it complicates work of attracting other states to non-proliferation.

DPRK Envoy Says Country Eager To Begin Nuclear Talks

LD1310185593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1744 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Suprun]

[Text] Moscow, 13 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—We will make every effort to hold a meeting as soon as possible with the Americans and finally solve the so-called "nuclear problem" in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. North Korea's ambassador to Moscow, Son Song-pil, said this at a news conference for Russian journalists today.

A decision on the holding of direct Korean-American talks without the participation of the International Atomic Energy Association [IAEA] on the presence of nuclear sites in North Korea, the ambassador said, was made by the leadership of his country after the recent 37th session of the IAEA General Assemblyin Vienna approved a resolution condemning North Korea for refusing access to the agency's inspectors to its territory. The adoption of this resolution, Son Song-pil said, was inspired "by certain officials" in the IAEA Secretariat on the basis of a message to the agency from the UN secretary general which, according to him, was a "forgery" which Butrus-Ghali himself supposedly acknowledged.

In these circumstances, the ambassador noted, the IAEA has "lost its rights and grounds for having dealings with us." "Now this problem can only be resolved around the Korean-American negotiating table," he stressed.

Replying to an ITAR-TASS correspondent who asked whether North Korea has a plan for further actions if such talks do not produce results, Son Song-pil said the DPRK wants to begin them as soon as possible and believes in the success of the talks, as, according to him, "this is in the interests of both our country and the United States."

Scientist Urges 'Political Response' to PRC Test

PM1310155993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 93 First Edition p 9

["Open letter" from Nikolay Vorontsov, vice president of the Academy of Natural Sciences, carried in "From the International Desks' Mailbag" roundup: "Reply to China Should Be Political, Not Nuclear"]

[Text] I am appealing to our American colleagues regarding the new situation which has emerged following the nuclear weapons test in China near Lake Lop Nur. Our position is unequivocal—we condemn this test. Together with this, I think this event is a kind of gift to the pronuclear forces in Russia, the United States, France, and Britain alike. I am extremely concerned about the statement by Secretary of State Warren Christopher, citing President Clinton, that the United States is prepared to carry out a limited number of tests in Nevada. If this happens, explosions on Novaya Zemlya and Mururoa will undoubtedly follow. The unique political position of a simultaneous moratorium by four nuclear powers will be smashed.

In this way, we will be responsible for inciting the proliferation of nuclear weapons testing among those countries with the relevant know-how [narabotki] (North Korea, Pakistan, India, Iran, Iraq, Israel, South Africa, Argentina, Brazil). The track record of nuclear weapons testing indicates that for the first eight to 12 years tests are carried out in the atmosphere and at ground level. Thus, the five nuclear countries will be responsible for indirectly stimulating a fresh round of radioactive pollution of the planet.

According to estimates by Academician Andrey Sakharov, surface explosions were responsible for the deaths from cancer or leukemia of between 4 and 5 million of the planet's inhabitants in the period 1945-83. As a geneticist I must add to this the fact of the genetic burden, the hereditary diseases which will take effect over the course of many generations.

I very much hope that our colleagues in the United States will look for a way to persuade President Clinton of the need to seek a political rather than nuclear response to China's extremely untimely action.

[Signed] Nikolay Vorontsov, vice president of the Academy of Natural Sciences

India's Dixit Holds News Conference on Visit's Results

LD1310172493 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1114 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Indian First Deputy Foreign Minister J.N. Dixit considers Russia to be one of his country's most important partners in all spheres. At a press conference devoted to results of his visit to the Russian Federation and staged on Tuesday [12 October] in Moscow he indicated that Russia and India had minor disagreements on the NPT [Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty] treaty, on human rights protection and on national minorities issues.

However, the diplomat said, both parties stick to the opinion that they should give priority to the humane approach in this sphere common to all mankind.

Speaking about the situation in the region, Dixit pointed out that India is interested in stable surroundings and in stability in Afghanistan and Tajikistan. He believes that the presence of Russian forces in that region is quite legitimate and measures undertaken by Russia within the CIS are quite adequate.

Though Russian forces are involved in operations to support stability in this region, the Russian leadership is in favor of political settlement of the conflict at the same time respecting Tajikistan's and Afghanistan's independence, emphasized Dixit. In his words, the Indian government backs this point of view entirely.

Regarding his assessment of the most recent events in Moscow, the Indian diplomat told an Interfax correspondent that this is Russia's internal affair and India cannot voice any comments on this issue. At the same time he pointed out that India supports the course pursued by Russian authorities and aimed at achieving stability and national consensus in the country.

Shokhin, Moldovan Counterpart Comment on Talks

LD1310215093 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] A meeting took place in Moscow today between Russian and Moldovan Vice Premiers Shokhin and Kunev . However, the signing of documents on Moldova's entering the ruble zone, as was announced yesterday, did not take place.

[Begin recording] [Shokhin] We did not discuss this subject, and mainly because we believe that each state should decide the future of its own monetary system. Either a state conducts its own state currency or it works within the framework of a single ruble zone, and this requires observing pretty tough demands and rules and this demands, as I have said more than once, giving up part of its sovereignty - Russia, too, must give up part of its sovereignty - in certain spheres of the economy.

[Correspondent M. Sarbaa] Today's meeting, Aleksandr Shokhin said, was devoted to the preparations for the visit to Moscow by a Moldovan Government delegation.

[Kunev] This meeting will take place on Tuesday. We shall by that time have prepared documents connected with the former union debt and by that time we shall prepare a document on payments in the power engineering complex.

Central Bank Denies Freezing All Dniester Accounts

LD1410105893 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1002 GMT 14 Oct 93

[BUSINESS-TASS]

[Text] Moscow, 14 October—The Press Service of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation announces that in spite of reports that have appeared concerning cessation of transactions on the accounts of banks of the

Dniester region, the Russian Central Bank has suspended operations only on the accounts of those associations and parties appearing on the relevant list of the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation.

Yeltsin Envoy Discusses Issue of Leasing Georgian Port

LD1310192493 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1618 GMT 13 Oct 93

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature; all quotation marks as received]

[Text] The issue on Russia's lease of the Georgian port of Poti has not been resolved yet. All reports to the contrary are untrue, Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Pastukhov, President Yeltsin's special envoy, told Interfax.

In his words, "in principle" the matter has really been discussed at various levels, although formal talks have not been conducted. "Russia would like to get "some opportunities on the Black Sea coast. "A base formula" could help to solve the problem in the interests of Russia and Georgia alike," Pastukhov remarked.

He explained that Georgia had so far been without a fleet of its own. "Meanwhile, the coastal border needs to be guarded somehow, hence Tbilisi's desire to settle the issue," Pastukhov explained.

As he put it, it is not a big technical problem for Russia to maintain its naval base at Poti since at one time there was a naval facility of the former USSR, which was subsequently dismantled.

Nonetheless, in his words, to speak about the terms on which Poti could be leased is "premature" at this stage. They must be "a subject for negotiations. The issue is to be discussed at a great many institutions in Georgia before it is resolved comprehensively," Pastukhov remarked.

He admitted that the derailment of the Sochi accords and further events in Abkhazia have affected the discussion of the issue and Russo-Georgian relations as a whole. "Now, fortunately, the situation is returning to normal, even though we still have to do a lot to restore mutual trust, which has always been typical of Russo-Georgian relations."

Diplomat on Possible Fate of Bosnia Settlement Plan

LD1310172893 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1618 GMT 13 Oct 93

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[Text] The settlement plan for Bosnia-Herzegovina that provides for the republic's division into three ethnic-territorial communities may suffer the fate of the Vance-Owen plan that remained on paper, a high-ranking Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman has told INTERFAX.

This may be caused, he said, by the unyieldingness of the sides, most of all of the Bosnian Muslims, who insist on reviewing the Bosnian "map" in order to have access to the sea.

The diplomat did not say what the reaction of Russia and its partners who took part in drawing up the plan would be.

According to the spokesman, one thing is clear so far: a pause in the settlement of the conflict must be used by the parties involved to consider all the possible consequences that would follow the refusal to sign the agreement.

Communications Minister Pays Visit to Cyprus

LD1110212493 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1426 GMT 11 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksey Yerovchenkov]

[Text] Nicosia, 11 Oct—Cyprus and Russia intend to develop broad cooperation in the sphere of communications and telecommunications. Evidence of this is an inter-governmental agreement which regulates mutual relations between the two countries on questions of electrical and postal communications, stressed Russian Communications Minister Vladimir Bulgak, who arrived here today on a visit, in a conversation with an ITAR-TASS correspondent. In addition, there is an operational agreement [ekspluatatsionnoye soglasheniye] between the "Rostelekom" joint stock company and the Cypriot telecommunications organization "Sita" on mutual accounts and on conducting matters in the sphere of international electricity communications.

This agreement, signed here, provides in part for solving questions of transit, telephone, and other channels, questions of final expenditure, and so on.

During the course of the visit there was a discussion of a proposal by the Cypriot side on setting up an optic fiber line linking Russia with Cyprus through Greece, Bulgaria, and onward across the Black Sea, the minister said. This may be seen as an alternative version of the project we are now implementing—Novorossiysk-Istanbul-Palermo (an optic fiber underwater trunk cable). Alternatively, the new project will supplement the second project which will enable Russia and Cyprus to be linked.

Today Vladimir Bulgak met Adamos Adamidis, minister of communications and public works of the Republic of Cyprus. The meeting showed, the Russian minister noted, that there are no obstacles in the way of improving the quality of channels and providing the required types of communications between Cyprus and Russia. The Cypriot Government's position is clear and firm—it sees cooperation in the sphere of communications to be one of the main directions of inter-state cooperation. During the conversation, Adamos Adamidis stressed the desire of the Cypriot side to deepen and broaden political and economic relations with the Russian Federation.

We, Vladimir Bulgak said, are very grateful to the Cypriot Government for the moral support which they gave President Yeltsin during the period of the grave days and events in our country. This once again emphasizes the need for a further broadening of Russian-Cypriot cooperation in all spheres.

Comments on Talks

LD1310160093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1133 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksey Yerovchenkov]

[Text] Nicosia, October 13 (TASS)—"The Russian and Cyprus ministers for communications have met here for the first time in the history of relations between the two countries. They signed an agreement governing the Russo-Cyprus relations in the sphere of electric communications and the posts, as well as the transmission of radio and TV programmes. They also signed the first agreement on the exploitation of communication lines, although there are yet no direct channels between Cyprus and Russia. However, thirty telephone channels are expected to be put into operation within the next few months," ITAR-TASS was told by Vladimir Bulgak, the Russian minister for communications.

Talks were also held with the Cyprus "Sita" telecommunications company. They focused on the prospects for developing cable lines in the Mediterranean region in accordance with projects implemented by all the countries of that part of the world. Russia's place in these projects was also determined.

"One of the key events of the visit was a meeting with Cyprus President Glavkos Kliridhis," Bulgak stressed. The sides discussed a wide range of problems. "Cyprus," as Kliridhis repeatedly noted during the talk, "is grateful to Russia for its support during the dramatic events of 1964, for its fair policy in the difficult year of 1974, for its continued adherence to fair approaches and efforts to prevent an armed settlement of the Cyprus problem. Russia stands for a political settlement, and this is greatly appreciated by the Cyprus leadership." The Cyprus president conveyed profound gratitude to Russian Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin for his concern about the problems of Cyprus, for his attention to the commercial problems between Cyprus and Russia.

Deputy Minister Meets French Ministers, Industrialists

LD1210220993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1844 GMT 12 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Krasnoshchekov]

[Text] Paris, 12 October—Oleg Soskovets, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, the Government of the Russian Federation, who is here on a working visit, had a meeting today with Francois Leotard, France's minister of state for defense, and with Gerard Longuet, minister of industry, posts, telecommunications, and foreign trade. During the talks, there was an exchange of views on the prospects for developing Russian-French economic and scientific- technical cooperation. Particular attention here was devoted to questions connected with possibilities for the French side to provide assistance to Russian enterprises in the defense complex as regards carrying out conversion, including financial and technological aid.

Today too, the Russian vice premier had meetings with the heads of the leading French iron-and-steel company Pechiney and the Thomson company, which specializes in the production of electronic equipment. Matters were discussed relating to the practical implementation of Russian-French bilateral agreements on the development of partnership ties between enterprises in the two countries' iron and-steel and machine-building complexes.

Libyan Embassy Protests Description of 'Terrorists'

PM1310152793 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 93 First Edition p 9

[Letter from "Libyan Embassy Information Department" carried in "From the International Desks' Mailbag" roundup: "Suspects—Not Terrorists"]

[Text] IZVESTIYA for 1 October 1993 (No. 187) carried a report on recent developments connected with the bombing of a U.S. aircraft over Lockerbie in 1988.

We have a high regard for your esteemed newspaper, and we are grateful for the tremendous interest and attention shown to news from our country, but, to our great regret, we noted a gross error overlooked by IZVESTIYA in the actual headline of this report. It was stated there that the two Libyan suspects are terrorists. And although we are convinced of the benevolence of your newspaper's staffers, we believe that such errors should not be committed by such a serious publication.

It is common knowledge that the two Libyan citizens mentioned are only suspects in this case. In none of the documents concerning this case, including the Security Council decision, nor in any mass media source do they figure under such humiliating epithets.

Given the legal provision on the presumption of innocence, it is difficult to understand how IZVESTIYA could apply the label of terrorists to people who have yet to appear before a court, or even before the investigative organs.

We hope that this error will not be repeated.

[signed] Libyan Embassy Information Department

Yeltsin Orders Payment of Debt to UN, CSCE

LD1110144093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1428 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow October 11 TASS—President Boris Yeltsin ordered to pay Russian debts to the United Nations and the CSCE, the presidential press service said on Monday.

The government was instructed to pay in the third quarter of 1993 and in the first quarter of 1994 a part of the debt worth 250 million dollars to the United Nations and 3.1 million dollars to the CSCE.

Yeltsin also ordered the government to repay the remaining part of the debt to the two international organisations and duely pay fees in future.

Churkin on Impact on European Stability of Enlarging NATO

LD1110191693 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1636 GMT 11 Oct 93

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[Text] Although anyone is free to seek entry of NATO, the question of granting such membership is an entirely different matter, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Vitaliy Churkin said commenting on the Latvian president's recent statement about his country's intention to join the North Atlantic Alliance.

The question of NATO's expansion has now become far too emotional, Churkin told INTERFAX.

In his view, the question is not "one of prestige but of serious political, military and other interests and that of European stability."

The Russian diplomat warned the applicants against attempts to try to elbow their way into the alliance. This is out of line with the substance of the problem which will soon become the subject of a very serious dialogue in Europe, he said.

The diplomat said that apart from NATO and new applicants, such talks must also involve Russia and other European countries. "We are not altogether indifferent to the way in which the issue is to be resolved since the question is one of Europe's new structure," Churkin said. He said that whatever change there might be must not be made to the detriment of other European states or tip the existing balance.

Nor does he agree with the Latvian President's assertion saying his country's entry of NATO will help it normalize relations with Russia. The two things have nothing to do with each other, Churkin said.

He denied that Moscow's relations with Latvia were far from normalcy. Churkin agrees to the existence of differences including Russian military presence or the status of Latvia's Russian-speaking community. "But I find it hard to see how Latvia's entry of NATO or any other agency can possibly help resolve those problems," Churkin said describing the argument as inconsistent.

New NATO Commander in Europe Profiled

PM0810131193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Oct 93 First Edition p 4

[Vladimir Mikheyev report: "New NATO Commander in Chief Plays American Football and Is Nicknamed Trainer"]

[Text] General George Alfred Joulwan is to be the new NATO supreme allied commander, Europe.

At present he heads the U.S. troops dispersed around Central and South America. His headquarters is in Panama. In this post he not only demonstrated his qualities as a military leader, but also proved his worth as a determined fighter against drug addiction. He repeatedly stated that the 10,000 Americans who die each year from drug abuse should be counted as "combat losses."

Gen. Joulwan will not feel like a stranger in Europe. He served here for 14 years; he commanded the Third Armored Division and the Fifth Corps stationed in Germany. He is also familiar with the NATO headquarters in the settlement of Mons in Belgium, where he also held a high command post.

George Joulwan, who is 53, served in the Vietnam war. He has received government awards. But he is more famous for his successes on the football pitch. A graduate of the West Point military academy, he played football for an invincible team in the glorious year of 1958 at his institute of higher education. As a member of his staff asserts, the soldiers like the general and have given him the nickname of Trainer.

Gen. Joulwan cannot deny himself the pleasure of devoting his weekends to a game of golf. Only his devotion to the Army and his family—he is married with three daughters—can rival this hobby.

NATO's Woerner Wants 'Strategic Partnership'

PM1210112793 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Oct 93 First Edition p 4

[ITAR-TASS Report: "NATO Secretary General Invites Moscow To Cooperate"]

[Text] NATO Secretary General M. Woerner, who is in New York, has stated: "NATO invites Russia to a strategic partnership and now sees it as its ally."

"We hope that with the passage of time collaboration will be expressed not only in the exchange of experience but also in practical cooperation in the field of military training and the planning and holding of maneuvers," he stated.

Political Issues

'Sources' Claim Yeltsin Preparing Referendum on Constitution

LD1410092393 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0903 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[Text] Moscow, 14 Oct—An ITAR-TASS correspondent has discovered from trustworthy sources that presidential structures are preparing a draft decree by Boris Yeltsin on holding a national referendum on the adoption of a new Russian constitution.

The same sources have made it known that a single question is to be presented for the Russian people voting on 12 December to judge: "Do you accept the Constitution of the Russian Federation?"

Constitutional Conference's Schedule Outlined

PM1310132493 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 1

["Own information" report: "Referendum on Constitution Possible in December"]

[Text] As Igor Kharichev, staffer of the President's Administration, announced at a conference of the Public Committee of Democratic Organizations of Russia (OKDOR) held last Monday, Boris Yeltsin signed a number of edicts and directives "of a political nature" prior to his departure for Japan. They include an Edict on the Work of the Constitutional Conference.

The Constitutional Conference is preparing to step up work on the draft new Russian Federation Constitution. It is proposed to hold a plenary session 16-17 October, at which a "package of proposals will be assembled" and a working group formed to do further work on the draft. The next, concluding session is planned for 30-31 October, after which the draft will be submitted to the president.

If work on the draft goes successfully and is completed in time, the main provisions of the new Constitution of the Russian Federation could be put to a referendum simultaneously with the elections to the Federal Assembly 11-12 December. This was announced at a press conference by Sergey Filatov, leader of the President's Administration.

To Reopen 15 Oct

LD1310132293 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1114 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] The Constitutional Conference to prepare a coordinated draft of the new Constitution is to hold its plenary sessions October 15-16, Interfax has been told by Viktor Sheynis, a member of the Constitutional Conference.

He also said that in line with the plan for the Constitutional Conference approved by Head of the President's Administration Sergey Filatov, the draft of a new Constitution is to be submitted to President Yeltsin before November 3. The news media are to carry the final version before November 10.

Effectiveness of Conference Viewed

MK1410095893 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 2

[Valeriy Pogorelyy report: "Edict on Constitutional Conference Chambers. President Sets Up Another Two Consultative Bodies"]

[Text] Boris Yeltsin has given a safety valve to those who are seething with dissatisfaction at the president's decisive steps, which may cost many a politician his job. Yesterday, the presidential orders on creating the Public and State Chambers of the Constitutional Conference to replace this body's current unwieldy structure were released for distribution. It is expected that both chambers will work out a draft of the new Fundamental Law and give the president advice on social and political problems. None of the documents, however, says that the chambers' recommendations will be binding on Boris Yeltsin.

The idea of turning the Constitutional Conference into the president's standing consultative body originated with the commission of representatives of public associations and parties when the conference was drawing to a close. If implemented at that time, it would probably have let the leaders who did not manage to become people's deputies to feel themselves involved in state affairs on the one hand, and on the other, make it possible to create a kind of counterbalance to the congress representing "broad sectors of the population."

However, now that all politicians have a chance to enter a new parliament, the creation of this consultative body appears to be a step taken out of inertia. If the involvement of the State Chamber (coordinators Boris Zolotukhin and Aleksandr Yakovlev) and the Public Chamber (coordinator Anatoliy Sobchak) in drafting the new constitution is undoubtedly justified as a method to bring out as many opinions as possible on the key state matter, their further raison d'etre is hard to account for.

For instance, the regulation says that the Public Chamber is "an organizational form of cooperation" with the federal authorities. Clearly, parties and public organizations could cooperate with the authorities in the first instance through their deputies in parliament, who will actually be part of this "authority." However, it is the parliament that will decide on social and political problems with respect to which the president plans to hold consultations with the two chambers of the Constitutional Conference. Evidently, it should be recalled that the executive branch is surrounded, in addition to the Presidential Council and the "expanded Council of Ministers," by various foundations and research centers,

whose specialists and experts will always be able to give better advice than the amateurs from the Constitutional Conference.

Perhaps the president thinks that in the future both chambers will make up a Constitutional Assembly that will adopt the new Fundamental Law. However, if Boris Yeltsin really wants to make this procedure as democratic as possible, members of this body must be elected by national vote.

As a matter of fact, since the regulations on creating the chambers allow a significant number of the dissolved Supreme Soviet's supporters to sneak into the chambers as representatives of the regions and public organizations, the value of the new consultative body may be that it will serve as a safety valve for political passions, which would ease tensions at the Federal Assembly and make its work more effective.

'Disbandment' of Security Ministry Seen Likely

MK1410082993 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 1

[Vladimir Kartashkov report: "They Are Trying To Turn Russian Special Services Into American Ones"]

[Text] Information about the disbandment [rasformirovaniye] of the Russian Security Ministry has come to the MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS editorial office from several independent sources.

Documents have already been drawn up on the procedure for the reorganization of the Russian Federation Security Ministry. These documents will shortly be presented for examination to Boris Yeltsin. The superpowerful monster will be carved up into several independent special services subordinated to the federal authority.

According to preliminary information, the Russian Federation Security Ministry will be divided up into four subunits in accordance with the key areas of the ministry's activities: a federal service to combat smuggling and corruption, a federal service to combat terrorism, a federal service to combat espionage, and border troops whose status has not been defined yet. The Security Ministry's military counterintelligence service will be put under the Defense Ministry, and more likely than not will become part of the 8th Directorate of the General Staff (counterintelligence and enforcement of secrecy). All regional subunits of the Security Ministry are also to be divided up. Each of them will be placed under its own special service.

MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS experts point out that the planned reorganization aims at turning the Russian special services into an analogue of Western special services whose main task is to create the greatest possible number of information channels for the executive branch.

MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS experts also believe that the border troops are expected to have their priorities altered. Russia is one of the last powers that views its borders as a plowed strip of land with a barbed wire fence and a border guard dog lurking in the bushes. Before 1917 a more sensible idea of the functions of the border guard corps prevailed in Russia. The Security Ministry's military counterintelligence is seen in the army as an organ for political surveillance and investigation. Its transfer to the Defense Ministry would hardly result in warm relations between counterintelligence and the army, but it would most certainly strengthen Pavel Grachev's hand in regard to "civilian" special services.

It is uncertain whether it will be possible to reorganize the over-bureaucratized apparatus of the Russian Federation Security Ministry without active resistance on its part. To all appearances, however, those inside the Russian Federation Security Ministry still have no idea of the pending disbandment.

Yerin Rumored To Become Security Minister

MK1410085293 Moscow KURANTY in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 1

[Inform-KURANTY report under the "Rumors" rubric: "Militia's Game of Solitaire"]

[Text] Social upheavals at all times, notably not only in Russia, bring about reshuffles.

This time again, before armored personnel carriers stopped roaring outside the White House, pundits began mulling over possible reshuffles among our top bureaucrats. The power ministries have not been left untouched by these plans. Deep inside the Internal Affairs Ministry a persistent rumor holds that Minister Viktor Yerin, decorated with a high award for valor displayed in the struggle against the mutineers, will head the Russian Security Ministry. Nature abhors a vacuum. They say that Mikhail Yegorov, currently Yerin's deputy and simultaneously chief of the Main Administration for the Fight Against Organized Crime, will step into Yerin's shoes. The soothsayers are reserving his vacant office for Vladimir Pankratov, chief of the Moscow Internal Affairs Main Administration [GUVD]. This is how the game of solitaire played by militia officers looks. The question is whether it will come out right?

Shakhray Reportedly Considers Resignation

PM1310151393 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 1

[Lyubov Tsukanova report: "Sergey Shakhray: Should I Stay or Should I Go?"]

[Text] Rumors of the resignation of Sergey Shakhray, vice premier and chairman of the State Committee for Federation and Nationalities Affairs, stem from his own statement at a meeting of representatives of Federation members after it became known that the Federation

Council session scheduled for 5 October would not go ahead and the session scheduled for 9 October was then canceled. Sergey Shakhray disagreed with this and expressed concern at the fate of representative organs of power in the localities. He then also mentioned the possibility of his resigning. However, ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI was told by the vice premier's press secretary, Sergey Surov, that this did not meet with the support of representatives from the regions—which evidently explains why Sergey Shakhray has not so far submitted an official application to resign.

Many people associate the vice premier's intention to resign with his earlier statement to the effect that he will undoubtedly quit state service if he decides to devote himself to party work—and set about forming a party of Russian unity and accord based in the regions. His recent statement is also linked with the possibility of his taking part in the election campaign: A subject that has featured regularly in the newspapers over the last few months has been the guesswork as to whether Shakhray will stand in the presidential election or not. I think that, despite all these elements, the fact that there has been a drastic change in the political situation following the events of 3-4 October and, as we can see, the regional policy of the president and government is undergoing radical changes is now the direct and most serious reason for his possible resignation.

We will be able to find out whether this is true or not in the very near future: I learned that Sergey Shakhray intends to explain his position at a Thursday press conference.

To Stand for Parliament

LD1310181693 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1700 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Russian Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Shakhray plans to stand in the parliamentary elections on 12 December. The INTERFAX agency has learned this from a source close to the deputy prime minister's office. The final decision will apparently be taken at the founding conference of the Party of Russian Unity and Concord, which is to be held in Novgorod on 16 October. The same source said the reports of Sergey Shakhray's possible resignation due to his disagreement with radical methods of reorganizing local soviets were true. However, the fact that Shakhray has been put in charge of the newly-formed State Commission for Reforming the Representative Power Bodies and Organizing Local Self-Government made his resignation impossible.

Shumeyko Notes Impending 'Structural Changes' in Executive Bodies

LD1310110093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0713 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Oleg Velichko]

[Text] Moscow October 13 TASS—Vice-Premier Vladimir Shumeyko does not intend to run for a new parliament and believes that "structural changes in bodies of executive power" will take place soon. Speaking to journalists on Wednesday [13 October], he explained that the government examines a draft on redistributing duties between vice-premiers. [sentence as received] Besides, he added, some committees will be disbanded and new ones established. True, the vice-premier did not specify which committees he had in mind.

Shumeyko expressed conviction that many members of the federation concur in the opinion "On the need for holding general elections to parliament and local councils on December 12 as well as for holding a referendum on a new constitution and for electing the Russian president".

"It is desirable to end all political battles this year," he continued. "And to complete the political restructuring of the state."

Shumeyko does not regard publications, the issue of which was suspended for the state of emergency period in Moscow as opposition periodicals. [sentence as received] He noted that these newspapers committed criminal acts, calling for the overthrow of state power.

Shumeyko confirmed that he plans "to continue court hearings on protecting his honour and dignity". He noted at the same time that amendments will be made to claims, since defendant Aleksandr Rutskoy and other people will be arraigned with committing grave crimes.

"I shall give up claims against them concerning a compensation for moral damage," he stressed.

Filatov Claims Society 'Purifying' Itself

LD1310224493 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2046 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] The Russian president's chief aide has called today's situation in the country as "normal but economically difficult." It has "considerably improved" after the putsch of October 3-4 was put down, Sergey Filatov, President Boris Yeltsin's chief of staff, told INTERFAX on Wednesday [13 October], in an exclusive interview following the opening ceremony for an exhibition of works of art and literature proposed for the State Prize of 1993.

"I'm happy that Russia, without interference from the Center, is purging itself of those forces which pandered to the revolt. This is being done by the constituent parts of the [Russian] Federation themselves, those democratic forces which exist in local councils and in local executive bodies. It's obvious that society is purifying itself. Fortunately the process has so far been painless," Filatov said.

No drastic changes in prices should be expected in the immediate future, he said. The obstacles to the implementation of the land reform, privatization, and an efficient investment policy raised by the dissolved Supreme Soviet would soon be removed, which would serve to normalize the economy, Filatov said. A more

efficient market system would make the economic reform more rapid and bring it under control, he said.

This would enable the state to allocate more funds for society's basic needs, including its cultural development. "Patronage and sponsorship of culture by business people is also growing in scale," which is yet another proof that Russian society's morality is becoming more sound, Filatov said.

Yeltsin Adviser Discusses Authoritarianism, Elections

MK1310150293 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 13 Oct 93 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Sergey Karaganov, deputy director of the Institute of Europe, member of the Presidential Council, by Anna Ostapchuk under the "Opinion" rubric: "The Most Important Thing Now Is To Keep Society From Civil War"; place and date not given]

[Excerpts] [Ostapchuk] Sergey Aleksandrovich, as a political scientist, what do you see as the further objectives of the presidential authority?

[Karaganov] We should probably start with analyzing the victory. It is evident to all that the president won this round, but this was a close shave. We should understand and analyze the reasons for all these wins and losses in the past two years. In my view, the president's problems were not confined to the Soviet system and the Congress's absolute power. Part of the problem was that each time he scraped together a critically narrow support base, especially among the elite. As a tsar-like president he was, of course, supported by a significant part of society that has always stood for a tsar-like president. But his support among the elite has always been very limited. When he was winning, the swamp—the centrist forces—inevitably moved closer to him, but as soon as he grew weaker, which is inevitable in a semidemocratic society, everybody deserted him, and he found himself alone again and started losing. It seems to me that presently we risk getting a more or less repeat pattern. Presidential authority should break this tradition. Unless it takes efforts to broaden its political and social base among the elite so as to cover all the elitist powerful political groups—including the new bourgeoisie, nearly all directors, a part of the military, a certain part of regional elites—if this is not done now when the enemy is disorganized and demoralized and we limit ourselves to a cavalry thrust, albeit a fairly deep one, the president will sooner or later find himself in semi-isolation (to all appearances, this will occur following the elections to the parliament and, correspondingly, the manifestation of all other interests through it) and will have to rule by tight authoritarian methods, which will not work in our country because even this requires powerful social and political support. An oligarchic republic could come about and must be governed on the basis of a consensus among oligarchies. To this end, the president should have at least the support of the major part of the oligarchy and enjoy some support among the population. Yeltsin will not be a Pinochet, because Pinochet had 40 percent of the population behind him—the upper middle class and a certain part of the lower middle class. [passage omitted]

[Ostapchuk] What is the actual balance of political forces now? Organized political opposition as a factor in the struggle for parliamentary seats has been destroyed. What forces joining the fray stand a chance of winning the elections?

[Karaganov] The most die-hard opposition has been crushed for some time to come, and good riddance. However, we should not forget that a significant part of this opposition represented actual interests of vast sections of the population, which have yet to become competitive. These sections of the population should have their political representation. If they do not get it, then, driven outside the political mainstream, they will launch a struggle against the legitimate authorities, thus undermining their effectiveness. Evidently, the best possible solution would be to have three groups. The first one is what is called the presidential group—"Russia's Choice." However, Shakhray, Gdlyan, Borovoy, and many other have already distanced themselves from it. The second group would encompass "Entrepreneurs for a New Russia" and everything around them. An alliance between the Zatulinites and Volskiy's directors—the "Renewal" Union and the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs—would be only natural. these are the groups that found themselves outside the power structures and are forming an alliance in order to get their share of power, their piece of clout. Although they have different interests, they have many things in common. Yavlinskiy belongs here, either with his election bloc or as chief of any of the existing ones. Third, in principle, an enlightened left-wing opposition must exist. We must go to any lengths to create a "manageable left wing." Whether you like it or not, you should understand that "a left wing" must exist in our social structure—manageable, "corrupt," so to speak, trade unions, left-wing parties that represent the uncompetitive sections of the population or those who have yet to become competitive. [passage omitted]

[Ostapchuk] Can reforms be pursued at a time when various forces in society are in a state of continual confrontation with each other?

[Karaganov] There is simply no other way out. In addition, a significant part of the people generally do not give a damn about the perturbations the supreme authorities are currently undergoing. On the one hand, this is a bitter offense for those who live by it, but on the other this is just splendid. The most important thing now is to maintain stability in society by all means available and to keep it from sliding into civil war. Reforms are underway on the ground. People change, and so do their attitudes toward society and themselves.

[Ostapchuk] Do you think that the upcoming election will help resolve all these problems?

[Karaganov] Of course, the elections will not resolve all the problems. But if civil war is to be driven away from our doorstep, they should be as legitimate as possible. We should make efforts to ensure that the law on elections is approved by the Federation components so as to give it legitimacy. Probably, immediately after the election, the new parliament should pass the law on presidential elections. Of course, to my mind, holding simultaneous presidential and parliamentary elections would have been the simplest way to legitimize this parliament. This step would have boosted this parliament's standing in society by giving it "popular legitimacy." Otherwise it will face great problems.

[Ostapchuk] Given a complete lack of checks and balances, don't you fear that Yeltsin's "enlightened authoritarianism" will turn into totalitarianism?

[Karaganov] First, I believe in the president's democratic instincts and common sense. It seems to me that currently the entire system has been set in motion in such a way that if he does not run for re-election, this would undermine his own legitimacy and also the legitimacy of parliament and decisions that were made at a very high cost. As a matter of fact, the president does not have leverage to force large masses of people or key social institutions into submission. We have also seen that we had a narrow escape during the Moscow putsch. This is why the president cannot introduce authoritarian rule now without having legitimacy. This rule exists only in Moscow. Even the current strengthening of the executive branch is unlikely to give him this leverage.

We will not slide into totalitarianism in any case. Society has already changed. Rather, we are threatened by a brutal but weak authoritarianism with elements of disintegration. This is a well-known Latin American pattern, and it will take a generation to lift ourselves out of it. The second option is a relatively authoritarian type of rule, but with strong democratic elements. This is also unpleasant. Latin American countries have also experienced something similar, but this rule tends to evolve into democracy instead of degenerating into disintegration. This is the best possible eventuality in the current conditions.

Yeltsin Adviser Views 'Revolt,' Current Situation

AU1310173393 Berlin DIE TAGESZEITUNG in German 12 Oct 93 p 10

[Interview with Petr Sergeyevich Filippov, director of the Analysis Center for Socioeconomic Policies of the president, by K.H. Donath; place and date not given: "Power Is Still Regarded as Godlike"]

[Text] [Donath] No sooner has the armed rebellion under the "red-brown" leadership been warded off than new controversies within the government begin....

[Filippov] The ambitions of the Russian leaders are very pronounced. There is an almost unrestrained tendency toward leadership. That is the reason for the hostility. A reformer like Yavlinskiy wants to come into power by any means and is therefore changing sides. He is joining the (conservative—the editors) entrepreneurs' association. Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Shakhray, who is also a reformer, is indulging in threats about his resignation. This may become unpleasant. I have been very pleased that Yegor Gaydar was called back into the government. The welfare of the country matters more to people like him than their own interests. We urgently need a reliable leading team.

[Donath] Can the government now carry out the reforms consistently?

[Filippov] Previously, everything was somehow related to the political center (mainly represented by the "Civic Union"—the editors). The major part of this center is relying on state interventions and subsidies. They wanted loans and yet this money ended up in private pockets, was dragged away, and not invested in production. In our country every manager regards a state enterprise as a means to enrich oneself. This is the norm in our country. Thus, if a "centrist" tells me that we have to preserve the powerful state industry, I answer: "Go ahead, feather your nest and that of your people!" Therefore, we have to privatize as quickly as possible—as soon as the legal prerequisites are created.

[Donath] You were in the first row to break the putschists' resistance. What impression did you have—was Yeltsin's stage well set?

[Filippov] When the armed revolt started, I got in touch with Filatov's office, head of Yeltsin's administration, at 1500. He was not there. I immediately realized that they were not at all in control of the situation. There was sheer panic. I drove to Ostankino; Rutskoy's mercenaries were already there. Where can we go to, I asked Filatov by car telephone. He sent me to the radio house to organize the president's support. We assigned important people to various positions. Then I called Poltoranin concerning military protection. What would happen if we were attacked now and not more than 40 militiamen protected the radio station? "I would like to help you with tanks, but I do not have any on hand...," he said.

[Donath] How can one explain this absolute chaos after it was clear that Rutskoy had been turning the parliament into a stronghold and weapons arsenal for days?

[Filippov] We have the word "avos," which describes it best: Disorder, to do something on the off chance. It has been a keyword in our history for some centuries. One decided to tackle the constitutional reform step by step. It was actually supposed that the parliament would disperse after a few days. Then the government switched the power off and let itself in for negotiations. Here its vacillation, which cannot be explained, was demonstrated. However, the negotiations did not cause our

people to believe that something might happen to the government. When Yegor Gaydar called the people to the streets late at night, he did the right thing. It was the only way to put political pressure on the security bodies and the Army leadership, which was in a state of deaf neutrality. Its motto was to wait and see. Many people and the higher-ranking generals acted completely abnormally. If a normal person were to witness the town hall being destroyed and the television center being attacked, he would at least be angered. The tens of thousands who gathered in front of the city parliament to support the government confronted the Army with the alternative: If you do not cope with these pogrom instigators, you will have to turn the tanks against us. The Army had to make a decision.

[Donath] The Army finally determined the outcome. Half an hour after the putsch was crushed, there were the wildest speculations in the West. Will Yeltsin be reduced to a puppet of the military? Or, conversely, will the Army's hesitation have consequences for it? Will it be reduced?

[Filippov] The Army has lots of problems of its own. It got all it could from the budget. It was given what was possible. Due to the officers' mentality and their lack of understanding for macroeconomic implications, especially, we cannot expect the Army to be a great and imperturbable defender of the reforms. Our relations should be clearly defined and we should keep our distance. Everyone understands exactly why the Army ought not to be in the decisionmaking arena. Explain to them that the permanent allowances that they get are weakening the subsidies and the ruble. They want a strong ruble, but they are calling for help all the time. I think that, considering the state in which the Army currently finds itself, it will not reach for power. Its political understanding goes at least so far that it will be careful not to play the role of a second CPSU. In this respect the local Soviets (parliaments—the editors) are more dangerous, but the Army? No.

In the West the state is supported by the interests of a strong, diversified middle class that possesses something and therefore has something to lose. In Russia, however, so far, the foundation of the state has been a bureaucracy that is interested in saving its extraordinary powers in the privatization process, the granting of licenses and permits, and thereby either organizing property or pocketing bribes. This bureaucracy, including the regional elites, wants to become the powerful authority in the privatization and regulation of the market structures. Of course, the ordinary people from the production sector have to struggle against it.

However, in our country, man still accepts power as something conferred by God. He could take the floor everywhere—but he does not do it. He differentiates between the people up there and us. My example does not convince him. I became a deputy with a megaphone in my hand next to the underground in St. Petersburg.... No, somehow that one also comes from above.... It will take a long time until they understand that it is actually they themselves who choose the power that must serve them. Power is still conferred by God and is therefore godlike.

[Donath] There is much talk about Russia's disintegration, the separatism of the regions. Most Soviets were loyal to Khasbulatov and Rutskoy, admittedly as long as it was not dangerous. Do you see a real danger in these tendencies?

[Filippov] In my opinion, these tendencies are restricted to the elite and the Soviets. Of course, this constitutes a threat. The people have opposite interests: a large uniform market. A strong political power that takes these demands to the outside has not yet appeared. One still banks on the president to secure and ensure the country's unity.

The people who are today in the Soviets will probably gradually disperse, but others will come or even the same will return after the elections. This is the economic elite, 70 percent of whom still consists of the old party personnel. Some putschists from the ex-nomenklatura were arrested, others will replace them. Twenty percent of our population continue to be addicted to communist ideology, and many decisionmakers profess a monopolist world view. The danger of a setback is not out of the question, especially if the socialist differentiation continues and there are suddenly unemployed in our country. At the moment, we have about 1 percent unemployment. For all that, I am convinced that even an unemployment rate of 5 percent will not have a destabilizing effect. Without unemployment, we will not be able to push reforms through.

[Donath] There was an outcry throughout the world: Censorship!

[Filippov] Accord freedom of speech to everyone. This is the best guarantee against anything. But can you envisage French or Swiss newspapers calling the government an "occupation regime" every day and calling for its overthrow all the time? Another comment on that. If a state of emergency is imposed in Los Angeles after riots, of 100 Americans, how many will go home after curfew? Well? Not one. And what about Russians? Certainly 70 percent. And that after they have drunk something. And you in the West are saying that there are brutal measures in our country. Have a look at the way in which the police treat the people. One does not give a damn about power in our country. Our people listen far less to the law. If an American gets in touch with the police, he first of all thinks that they will act according to their official duties. And in our country? One puts something into the policemen's pockets.

[Donath] A forecast for the elections in December?

[Filippov] This depends on the election campaign. We need professionals, lawyers, and people who can head a budget committee. I am rather afraid that our new parliament could be dominated by populists.

Former Foreign Trade Minister Explains Resignation

LD1310165493 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1114 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Ex-Foreign Economic Relations Minister Sergey Glazyev has explained his decision to resign on September 22 "solely by his distaste for the use of force to settle the political crisis, aggravated by the violation of the constitution." As he stresses in a statement for the press made available to INTERFAX on Wednesday [13 October], "at a time of constitutional irresponsibility, executive branch actions were losing legitimacy and in that political situation were fraught with the worst possible consequences." Glazyev emphasized that he had never shared communist or nationalist views and had worked entirely for economic reform and the advance towards democracy.

He reported that, upon his resignation the day following the issue of Decree No. 1400, he had spared no effort to avoid force in efforts to settle the political conflict. "I felt it was my human and christian duty to persuade Aleksandr Rutskoy, Supreme Soviet and government leaders to act together in order to overcome the crisis and avert violence."

He was puzzled by the fact that his resignation was interpreted by joining former Vice-President Rutskoy as his economic adviser. "Although we were getting on well, I have never been his adviser, nor have I drafted any programs for him," the former minister stressed.

Last August, Glazyev had already tendered his resignation in the wake of the charges of foreign trade irregularities brought against the foreign trade department. However, the cabinet turned down the request.

Prosecutor Kazannik Interviewed on Background, Tasks

PM1410084193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 93 First Edition p 7

[Interview with General Prosecutor Aleksey Kazannik by Leonid Nikitinskiy under the rubric "Studies for a Political Portrait"; place, date not given: "Aleksey Kazannik Has Found His First Supporter in the General Prosecutor's Office"]

[Text] He made his appearance during the time of General Prosecutor Comrade, later Mr., Stepankov and foxed me because of the total lack of common traits shared with his owner. We conversed silently and discussed the moral zigzags of the occupant of the top office opposite during the painful minutes as I was waiting to be personally received by the general prosecutor.

He was a big—probably a meter tall—either bronze or iron Don Quixote of La Mancha, painted all in black, but clearly recognizable from his rather wispy pointed beard, lanky and awkward. At that time I simply could not fathom why the Knight of the Sorrowful Countenance had ended up in this institution so alien to his ideals. But last week, when Don Quixote of La Mancha's wait for a new incumbent of the office opposite—someone not only of a similar way of thinking but also, in my view, with a outward resemblance to him—ended, I realized what this meaningful and deliberate symbol meant.

[Nikitinskiy] Aleksey Ivanovich, I have always wondered how it occurs to people to become lawyers.

[Kazannik] I don't exactly remember, but I always dreamed of becoming a lawyer. I had no romantic notions of this profession—I did not see myself as a sleuth pursuing bandits. It's just that I have always believed that the law is a method of establishing social justice.

You know, I'm a man of the sixties. At the Irkutsk University Law Faculty we were given the assignment—it was the time of the Khrushchev thaw—of writing course work based on the papers of criminal cases investigated in the thirties-fifties. To my horror as a student I came to the realization that even then legality in the strict sense of the word was not violated, there were draconian laws and they were implemented.

[Nikitinskiy] Do you think that the most important thing is for laws to be implemented no matter what they are?

[Kazannik] Oh no, certainly not. I believe that the most important thing is for laws to be in line with true reality, with nature.

[Nikitinskiy] You have rather an exotic speciality: environmental law. Did you opt for this because you saw an empty ecological niche here?

[Kazannik] In the seventies I defended my candidate's dissertation on problems of coordination in the system of local soviets—at the time this seemed very important to me. But when I began to lecture at the university I saw that all that was left for us to do was to comment on quotations. So-and-so said this, somebody else said this... You know, I did not have the strength to study state law. And the second impetus was the fact that, back when I was still studying the state, I was asked in Irkutsk to write a book about conserving the environment of the Lake Baykal basin. And when I visited Baykal and saw how it was dying, I realized this problem was far more important than the soviets.

[Nikitinskiy] You wanted to escape legal reality by plunging into ecology?

[Kazannik] Plunging into ecology! Exactly. [Kazannik ends]

Heading for Baykal, Aleksandr Ivanovich Kazannik immediately became one of its more resolute defenders. He moved from bookish, dogmatic fustiness and the gobbledygook of meaningless quotations out into the fresh air, the air and wind of Baykal! But the mid-eighties dawned and, with the arrival of Gorbachev, the fresh wind of April began to blow through the offices of

the authorities and in society. By then Aleksey Kazannik had left Irkutsk because of personal and rather dramatic circumstances and had settled in Omsk in a university department, which is where the wind of change found him and carried him away...

[Kazannik] I had absolutely no intention of running for people's deputy in 1989. Sergey Baburin, the dean of our faculty, came along and began to try to talk me into running. I hesitated, but I agreed. I thought that I could be of some use that way...

[Nikitinskiy] Why did they plump for you?

[Kazannik] How can I explain... I had delivered a lot of lectures both at the university and at enterprises until 1979.

[Nikitinskiy] Why until 1979?

[Kazannik] You see, in 1979 I delivered a lecture at one of our "mailboxes" [secret defense industry plants] saying that the introduction of troops into Afghanistan was a crime and madness. Someone secretly recorded the lecture and passed it on to the competent organs, as the phrase went at that time. I could not be expelled from the party, since I had never been a member of it, but the question of firing me from the university was raised. Eventually, since I am quite a good lecturer, it was decided to leave me in my job but to forbid me to speak out in public. Then in 1989 when the process of nominating candidates began, this was exactly what people were looking for, everyone began to remember: Right, this is the man...

[Nikitinskiy] Tell me about your impressions from work at the Congresses of USSR People's Deputies.

[Kazannik] After such an intense election campaign for some reason I thought that the Congress would be made up of different people who would choose a different path of development for Russia. I impatiently awaited the Congress. But when I arrived there I lost heart. It was rock-hard ferroconcrete. And the Supreme Soviet was just the same. One day I could not stand it, I marched up to the microphone and I said: I can't take any more, I'm going home. It was unendurable. But, give him his due, Lukyanov was a highly educated lawyer and, although he twisted the standing orders as he saw fit, he would not allow the Union Congress and parliament to be turned into nonparliamentary institutions like their Russian counterparts.

I remember the First Congress because it was there that I met people whom I could not even have dreamed of meeting before: Sakharov and many such people. It was wonderful, but... they yielded nothing. And political activity is like a drug. I could sense that from my own experience. I was forever examining the newspapers, analyzing the disposition of political forces, and attempting to make forecasts, although there was no longer any need to to this. So I think that if someone is involved in politics, it is very difficult for him to extricate himself, and that is a problem.

Nevertheless, these people whom we call democrats were never embittered. The first call at rallies in those years was always: Take five steps back so you don't tread on anybody's toes. Now a kind of madness afflicts society. Unfortunately everything has become black and white. Political and ideological barricades have been erected, and unfortunately we have ended up on different sides of the barricades. We have become very malicious and intolerant. And political intriguers have immediately taken advantage of this. And they have even managed to lead... To lead people into bloodshed... [Kazannik ends]

My interlocutor paused for quite a long while as though again considering before saying the word "blood." "We have become very malicious"—that is what concerns him most of all. That is a very unfamiliar viewpoint for a general prosecutor to our way of thinking, isn't it? Stepankov's successor, who, incidentally, refused to say a bad word about his predecessor, is nevertheless very differently inclined.

We remember Kazannik for a series of extravagant actions at the First Congress of USSR People's Deputies, particularly the fact that he gave up his Supreme Soviet seat in favor of Boris Yeltsin, who garnered three votes more in the straw poll. But he soon grew tired of the Kremlin theater of the absurd, and in a state of some horror Kazannik fled back to Omsk.

There are various myths and legends about him in Omsk, and, though I would like to repeat them, I cannot do so in full for want of space and time. So I will recount just one. USSR People's Deputy Professor Kazannik once traveled to an environmental congress in Rome. He did not have a single dollar in his pocket, but in his suitcase was a rare book, which a priest friend of his had asked him to pass on to his acquaintance the Pope. When he arrived in Rome, Kazannik called the papal staff, and an audience was scheduled. It never occurred to Kazannik to ask that a car be sent to pick him up, he just got on a streetcar and set off for the Vatican. Consequently this Siberian hick, who had only rarely been abroad, naturally lost his way in the great city and was a few minutes late for his audience. He was met at the entrance to the Vatican by a furious cardinal who was about to let rip, but the Lord swiftly made the cardinal realize who he was dealing with, and he said: "All right, you're obviously a decent fellow, but I'm afraid the Pope's audiences are scheduled to the second, so give me your book, my blessing be upon you, and be off with you." That was how Aleksey Kazannik, the future general prosecutor of Russia, unfortunately missed his meeting with the Pope.

Without setting the world alight, Kazannik nevertheless showed Siberian persistence, was a success in legal science, sharpened his pen as a commentator in lively and cogently written political pamphlets (a sample title: "Wolves for Vegetarianism") that were published in oblast newspapers, and was loved by the audience at his

lectures and in general by the people of the city of Omsk for the fact that, unlike other people's deputies of that first brood, nad secured neither a car on privileged terms nor an apartment in the city center. What made him abandon this quiet life and rush back to Moscow?

[Kazannik] I had received similar offers before, particularly when the Russian Congress appointed Valentin Stepankov. I replied that I was quite happy with my present position. Put in the current situation for some reason I did not pause to reflect and did not hesitate long.

[Nikitinskiy] Could you tell us in a bit more detail who called you and when?

[Kazannik] Boris Nikolayevich called me. It was 0400 hours Omsk time, but I could not sleep—I don't think anyone slept in Russia that night (really?—L.N.). The offer came precisely at the moment in the fighting when programs went off the air, and the radio also fell silent. And you know, I thought that "Ostankino" might already have been seized. My first thought was: Maybe I will actually be able to do something to help. He asked: "When is the next flight?" In that situation I could not refuse... [Kazannik ends]

So despite everything he is Russian general prosecutor. And not at the best of times for Russia. Perhaps, God willing, one day we will live to see a bright future when the prosecutor's office will spend most of its time protecting squirrels and fish in Baykal, but for the moment, whether we like it or not, it spends most of its time uncovering and investigating crimes, including, appropriately enough given the extreme politicization of our society, crimes with political implications. Aleksey Kazannik, who is convinced that "politics spells trouble" and that it is more a kind of plague or leprosy, will now find himself right in the thick of things, in the leper hospital, caught in the crossfire between different political groupings, in the snake pit of apparatus intrigues. Does he fully realize this? Does he realize and does he see from numerous examples, including that of his pupil Sergey Baburin, how difficult it is to remain a lawyer in your way of thinking once you become involved in politics?

[Kazannik] I think that politics and law can exist in an optimum combination.

[Nikitinskiy] Even in today's Russia?

[Kazannik] No, not in today's Russia. But in theory it is possible. If you also bear in mind morality. But it is a very serious issue, and I will be frank in my answer. By virtue of my moral stance I have no fear of any mud sticking to me.

[Nikitinskiy] You will be deliberately smeared and discredited. You will be pressured from all sides. You will have a staff. Are you ready for all this?

[Kazannik] I am going into this with my eyes open.

[Nikitinskiy] Don't you think Yeltsin picked you as someone who is loyal to him and now, counting on that loyalty, will start pressuring you?

[Kazannik] I think Boris Nikolayevich was guided by rather different motives and probably thinks I will be able to display a principled approach and avoid the influence of political groupings.

[Nikitinskiy] Your appointment testifies more in Yeltsin's favor. A moral person is always awkward. In my view, this shows that Yeltsin is not afraid and is prepared for the possibility that you may go against him on some issues.

[Kazannik] I may go against him? I don't think there is anything about him to interest the prosecutor's office. [Kazannik ends]

Morality is one thing, but the prosecutor must work on the basis of the law, and unfortunately there is no formal law in Russia today. Now, for reasons beyond his control, the number one item on the new general prosecutor's agenda will be the huge, labor-intensive, slippery, crazy case of Khasbulatov-Rutskoy and the other October rebels. Now is not the time to specially torment Aleksey Ivanovich with questions about this case in order to avoid placing him in a false position. So I mentioned the case quite briefly.

[Kazannik] So far the assembled papers are not enough for a description of the accused's actions. I think the charge will mention the organization of mass riots.

[Nikitinskiy] Communists took part in the rebellion—let us describe it as that—and you have never made any secret of the fact that you are an anticommunist. Sergey Baburin, with whom you once had personal connections, may find himself involved in the case in one capacity or another...

[Kazannik] I will say straightaway that in such cases membership of a particular party has no significance at all. You cannot prosecute anyone on political or social grounds. As for my relationship with Baburin, this is indeed a tricky problem for me. If I were the prosecuting attorney, I would refuse, and even the court would have construed this as bias (really?—L.N.). But as the supervising prosecutor I will ensure that everything takes place within the framework of the law. I will study all the papers very carefully.

[Nikitinskiy] Did I understand you correctly—you said that in your personal capacity you are not going to act as prosecutor?

[Kazannik] Heaven forbid.

[Nikitinskiy] Yesterday you signed five or six arrest warrants. As department head and as a new man you could have instructed your deputies to do this.

[Kazannik] I listened carefully to the report and examined the papers and I decided that, since I am the supervising prosecutor, I should sign these warrants myself. [Kazannik ends]

The new Russian prosecutor has stated from the first day that, unlike Pontius Pilate, he is not going to wash his hands and stand aside when the time comes to decide matters of principle, to punish or pardon, and to assume the full weight of moral and historical responsibility. This may be not so much self-confidence, as an idealistic and naive overestimation of his own strength in the battle against the monsters he will now have to confront, especially the monstrous apparatus of the General Prosecutor's Office itself, which gained a sophisticated grasp of intrigues in Stepankov's time and sees itself as primarily a many-headed avenging Cerberus in the political fray.

[Nikitinskiy] Do you have any general concept of the prosecutor's office?

[Kazannik] There have been all kinds of debates about this recently. I think that hasty decisions are inappropriate. Someone arrives and after a couple of days imposes his own concept on structures that in general have actually working successfully in some respects.

[Nikitinskiy] What were you thinking on your night flight to Moscow?

[Kazannik] First, by then it was morning. When I was on board the aircraft I was not reflecting on concepts, I was thinking about how I would fit into the collective and how we are going to work together on very complex problems. [Kazannik ends]

Some highly civilized states have the custom of appointing a woman defense minister, someone who has necessarily never held any weapon more formidable than a potato peeler. That may be right, but is it any good for the Russia of the late 20th century?

There can be no doubt that by no means everyone in the General Prosecutor's Office apparatus will find Aleksey Kazannik to their liking and that both there and in other lairs of political power there will be plenty of people eager to gobble him up. But it will clearly not be as easy to do this as it might first appear. First, quite emphatically, nobody has any compromising material about Kazannik. Second, the apparent naivete of some truly simple-hearted people creates around them an aura against which the apparatus wolves can only snap their teeth to no avail.

I think it is time for the iron Don Quixote to move from the reception room actually into the general prosecutor's office, where he will find a worthy ally in tilting at windmills. But anyone who does not realize that it is not only not futile to tilt at them but actually necessary to do so is himself not the most intelligent of people. Taking our cue from the new general prosecutor, we will allow ourselves to be a little idealistic once again. It is so nice until your face is banged against the wall for the umpteenth time. But let us trust him nevertheless, if only because you cannot distrust everybody, that is unnatural.

Reshuffling in Prosecutor's Office Assessed

MK1310102193 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 14

[KOMMERSANT-DAILY "Crime" Desk report: "Prosecutor's Office Investigates Disturbances in Moscow. New Deputy General Prosecutor Appointed"]

[Text] Yesterday, investigators of the Russian General Prosecutor's Office did not question leaders of the former parliamentary opposition arrested in connection with the disturbances in the Moscow. The explanation is that the leaders' lawyers were busy at the State Committee for the State of Emergency trial. Also yesterday, Vildan Uzbekov, the new deputy general prosecutor, began his duties. KOMMERSANT-DAILY experts attribute this appointment to the fact that the presidential staff wishes to put the investigation of this case under the president's direct control.

According to sources close to the Russian prosecutor's office, the General Prosecutor's Office so far does not have a single plan to investigate this case. The investigation was expected to be headed by one of the deputies of the Russian prosecutor with the general prosecutor himself keeping tabs on it. So far, however, the new Russian prosecutor, Aleksey Kazannik, is not happy with any of the candidates for his deputies. It is not ruled out that this is why a reshuffle among the prosecutor's office chiefs has begun, and Vildan Uzbekov, the new Russian deputy prosecutor, started his duties yesterday. He was appointed to this position on 11 October (in the past the general prosecutor selected his own deputies). Vildan Uzbekov previously served as deputy chief of the Russian presidential administration's control administration headed by Aleksey Ilyushenko and as a member of the Interdepartmental Commission for Combating Crime at the Top Echelons of Power (MVK). According to some reports, Mr. Uzbekov took direct part in the MVK's work.

According to the same sources, all Russian prosecutor deputies are to be replaced shortly. KOMMERSANT-DAILY experts note that the president will thus be able to put the prosecutor's office under his own control. Hence, not only this case but also the cases of corruption among top officials under investigation by the General Prosecutor's Office will end up under the presidential staff's direct control.

Charges To Be Brought Against Makashov

LD1310160193 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1327 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Shortly specific charges will be brought against Albert Makashov, one of the leaders of the armed October 3-4 rebellion in Moscow, informed sources in

Russia's law enforcement bodies told Interfax. Makashov was arrested immediately after the suppression of the armed opposition in the House of Soviets in accordance with Article 90 of Criminal Code which provides for the detainees to remain in custody for 10 days without charges being made.

Charges against the rebel leaders R. Khasbulatov, A. Rutskoy, V. Baranni kov, A. Dunayev, and V. Achalov and a resolution to make them accountable as defendants are to be made not later than October 17. Though they were detained on October 4, Prosecutor General A. Kazannik issued a warrant for their arrest in the evening of October 7 saying they committed crimes under Article 79 of the RSFSR Criminal Code. They are accused of organizing mass disturbances which led to severe consequences.

Terekhov Charged Under Three Articles of Criminal Code

PM1310153593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 93 First Edition p 8

[Nikolay Burbyga and Valeriy Yakov report: "Lieutenant Colonel Terekhov Has Been Charged"]

[Text] The 10th day after being detained Lieutenant Colonel Terekhov was charged under three articles of the Criminal Code. IZVESTIYA's correspondents were told this by Justice Col. Mikhail Kislitsyn, Moscow Military District prosecutor.

In the opinion of the prosecutor's office staffers conducting Terekhov's case, the former leader of the "Officers' Union" committed crimes that come under Part 2 of Article 191 (note) of the Criminal Code—resistance, attended by violence, to militia staffers carrying out their official duties of guarding public order. In addition, he is charged under Part 3 of Article 218 (note)—stealing weapons by prior agreement with a group of persons by means of a violent attack—and Part 1 of Article 218—illegal carrying and keeping of firearms.

The possibility cannot be ruled out that the facts of Terekhov's involvement in other offenses will be established during the investigation, but it is too soon to maintain this, particularly as investigative group staffers do not like to speak of suppositions, preferring established facts. The facts to date confirm that Terekhov really did organize and lead the action on Leningradskiy Prospect. Like some of his group, he was armed with an assault rifle but did not fire for effect.

The investigative group has recreated a picture of what happened in quite great detail, and the specific role of everyone involved in the crime is already largely known. Three direct participants have already been detained, the names of the rest have been established, and an active search for them is now under way. So far none of the attackers has given himself up, although, given the present development of the matter, this would make real sense for them—they will hardly succeed in hiding for the rest of their life.

Although Mr. Terekhov himself has acknowledged his guilt he has vigorously demanded his release, arguing in his petition that he alone will be able to halt future bloodshed. At the same time the detainee has somehow forgotten that the first blood had already been spilled on the city's streets not without his participation.

Terekhov was dismayed on learning from the investigator of the events of 3-4 October and the fall of the White House.

Meanwhile, the investigative group is continuing the search for the weapons the attackers used. The possibility cannot be ruled out that they will be discovered among the assault rifles confiscated in large numbers from the White House. True, Terekhov's assault rifle will not be found there for the very prosaic reason that during his flight from the scene of the crime the lieutenant colonel... forgot his weapon on one of the fences over which he hastily climbed.

Terekhov's complaints of feeling indisposed resulted in a recent thorough comprehensive expert appraisal of the man under investigation in the Burdenko Hospital involving the hospital's authoritative specialists. The results of the expert appraisal confirmed that the state of health of the man under investigation is satisfactory and permits investigative measures to be conducted. It was also confirmed that in the process of being detained Terekhov received slight bodily harm without detriment to his health, albeit with a suspicion of slight concussion.

Since the former lieutenant colonel has been in the care of the Military Prosecutor's Office, he has no longer been beaten.

Terekhov has not yet had a meeting with his wife, and he finds out about his three daughters only from conversations with the investigator. He has not yet received any parcels either. On the other hand, he has met with attorney Khamzayev—Yanayev's present defense attorney in the trial of the State Committee for the State of Emergency.

One of the prisoners of Lefortovo—General Achalov—has already given a testimony in the case of Terekhov. It mainly coincides with the testimony he gave before the fall of the White House. The crux of his account is this: My codefendants and I have nothing to do with this, and Terekhov himself is guilty.

Investigation of Corruption Charges Against Rutskoy Continues

LD1310223793 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2046 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] The Moscow Prosecutor General's Office continues the investigation started on September 3 based on documents handed to the Prosecutor General's Office by

the Russian Security Council's Commission for Combating Crime and Corruption.

Moscow Prosecutor General Gennadiy Ponomaryov told Interfax on Wednesday [13 October] that the investigators' visit to Canada, initially scheduled for September and then shifted to October 8, had been put off again. He said that the investigators counted on assistance from the Canadian secret service - the Royal Horse Police. The agreement reached between the Russian Interior Ministry and the Canadian special services envisaged the quick and unrestricted visit of the investigators. "However, the Russian Interior Ministry refused to help us obtain visas quickly, referring to problems and difficulties. Now we have to deal with the Foreign Ministry," he said.

The case investigated by the Moscow Prosecutor General's Office is connected with the Agrokhim amalgamation. The investigators intend to trace back the circumstances leading to the bank account in a Swiss bank to which, as the commission member Andrey Makarov alleges, Russia's former vice president Aleksandr Rutskoy is entangled. In Canada the investigators are planning to meet with witness Dmitriy Yakubovskiy.

"Time will show how serous this problem is and whether our efforts will be facilitated or blocked," said Ponomaryov.

Photographs, Video Footage of Moscow Violence Sought

PM1410101593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

["Own information" report: "General Prosecutor's Office Asks for Assistance"]

[Text] The Russian General Prosecutor's Office has appealed for aid to citizens and organizations who took photographs or shot video 2-4 October of the events in Moscow on Smolenskaya Square, by the "Oktyabrskaya" subway station, the Krymskiy Bridge, the "Ostankino" television and radio broadcasting center, or the city hall building, and asks that these photographic and video materials be made available to the investigations group. There is a number for telephone calls: 92-39-571, or 29-15-695.

Proposed Special Status for Moscow Decried

MK1410094593 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 1

[Vera Kuznetsova article in the "Opinion" column under the general headline: "A Special Status for Moscow and a General State of Emergency for the Rest of the Country? If Moscow Becomes a Special State, Why Then Does Russia Need It?"]

[Text] The rumors that the authorities want to tighten the Moscow residence permit and registration regime, thereby limiting freedom of movement for Russian citizens, have concrete foundation—a presidential draft edict includes two points to this effect. True, for the sake of fairness it needs to be noted that the initiative has come not from the Kremlin but somewhat "from aside"—from Tverskaya Street [the City Hall]. Eye witnesses report that the first variant of the draft edict was "crazy" or "semi-illiterate" (commentators differ in their definitions). After the "rewrite" the draft emerged in a "decent" form—the provisions for a visa regime for entering Moscow and some other stupidities were dropped from it. Still, the new variant envisions a "special" status for Moscow—not as a political and cultural and therefore, naturally, open capital of Russia, but as a semi-closed city, confined exclusively within its own boundaries.

Well, if the authorities of Moscow and the Center deem it possible to translate such an idea into life, they will have plenty of excuses, for the sake of the security of Muscovites. Other arguments seem superfluous. Nonetheless, the capital of any state is always a complicated territory in terms of its crime situation. Yet neither Paris nor London (where IRA terrorists act in far more dangerous ways than our criminals) allows itself the luxury of becoming a semi-closed city under seemly pretexts. Otherwise they would cease to be capitals. The London authorities do not endeavor to push through edicts on a "special" status or regime but better equip their police and try to pay them more.

If Moscow wants to move to a special status (which in fact can be considered its legitimate will), a series of questions will arise: Why is this closed or semi-closed city necessary to the rest of Russia? As a preserve of federal authority? And why is this authority—capable of ensuring only its own security and with it, 9 to 10 million people kept in a "golden cage"—necessary in the first place? Or better still: extend the "golden cage" practice to all cities in Russia, imposing exit and entry registration norms?

Apparently the authorities have proven incapable of living up to their election promises: canceling the residence permit system [propiska] and ensuring our security on the state level by building up Russia's border. The authorities have only one choice in the end: either a single Russian Federation or separate cities/fortresses. Let Moscow be the first. With a visa regime it would probably be even more graphically and sharply visible how those within the "golden cage" are monopolizing the market and creating new bureaucratic institutions on visa enforcement, which in their turn will rob us not in the street but directly at home, charging taxes and bribes for the freedom of movement. If the edict is signed, one will have to wait much longer for an "open-door day" than for the formal abolition of censorship.

State of Emergency Used To 'Cleanse' Moscow of Criminals

LD1310165893 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1114 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] About 14,138 people without Moscow registration and without any permit to stay in the city have been detained in Moscow during the state of emergency in effect in the capital. Deputy Chief of the Public Order Security Department Colonel Gennadiy Feklichev reported at a briefing on Wednesday [13 October] that 4,850 people had been sent back to their usual homes. Citizens of Transcaucasian and North Caucasian republics account for 90 percent of those removed.

With the introduction of the state of emergency and curfew in Moscow militiamen detained 29,697 people, among them 176 people for crimes.

According to Feklichev, at present the major task of the militia is to use the state of emergency to "cleanse" Moscow of criminal elements. A total of 13,600 guards of order are sent everyday to patrol the city and, thanks to additional contingents sent from other regions (mainly interior forces and army) the number of patrols and posts has increased 2.5 times.

Feklichev also recognized that it was "a pleasant surprise" for the Moscow militia that since October 3 Muscovites eagerly make contacts with the law enforcement bodies and rendered substantial assistance to them.

As a result of an operation "Signal-Koltso" (Signal-Ring) carried out from September 27 until October 11, 113,241 people were charged with minor offences, 1,396 criminals were detained, and militia confiscated 1,262 units of firearms. In addition, number of serious offences and car theft has substantially reduced.

Amendments Proposed to Criminal Justice Law

LD1310225493 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2046 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Russia's law enforcement bodies have suggested several amendments to the existing legislation. A senior Interior Ministry official told INTERFAX the main purpose of the proposals was "to eliminate contradictions in the existing legislation which enable criminals to evade prosecution and prevents the police from ensuring maximum protection for the rights of law-abiding citizens." He said the proposals posed no danger to ordinary people but caused strong and understandable anxiety in the underworld.

One of the proposals concerns a provision in the present legislation under which a judge's ruling on whether a detainee is to stay in custody before the trial or not cannot be canceled. Numerous serious offenders have been released on bail by district judges and were able to escape after that, the official said. It is suggested that only a higher court be given the authority to cancel such rulings.

Another proposal is for extending the maximum term - 72 hours at present - for which a detainee can be kept in custody before a charge is made against him. If a detainee comes from another part of the country, it is practically impossible to obtain the necessary information about him in three days. It is often the case today that a detainee is let go after three days in custody, and then it transpires that the police have been after him for a long time.

The proposals, sent to the president, have been formulated by the Interior Ministry, the Justice Ministry, the Prosecutor General's Office and the Federal Migration Service. The final decision is to be taken by the president and formalized in a decree which is being drafted for him by the Chief Legal Administration, a body which reports directly to the president.

Media Presence at 1991 Putsch Trial Described

LD1310154893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1117 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By CRIME-PRESS correspondent Nikolay Semyonenko]

[Text] Moscow, October 13 (TASS)—Four members of the association of foreign correspondents and representatives of 26 Russian media have been granted the permission for presence in the courtroom on a permanent basis during the trial of members of the State Committee for the State of Emergency responsible for the August putsch in 1991. Among these media are 13 newspapers, four TV networks, three news agencies, two radio stations and two photographic agencies. In addition, it has been decided to allocate some 100 permanent places for representatives of state institutions, public organisations and work collectives. The Crime-Press correspondent was told this by Viktor Pavlyonok, representative of the military collegium of the Russian Supreme Court for relations with the media, in connection with statements of a number of lawyers and defendants about aledged violations of the principle of the openess of the trial on the case.

Since many of those holding permanent passes have not been present at the trial of late, it is possible to grant one time passes to court meetings to representatives of other Russian and foreign media, work collectives, public organisations and citizens, Pavlyonok said. Passes are issued at the reception room of the military collegium the day before the visit.

Acting Chairman Examines Future of Constitutional Court

LD1310212693 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1717 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Acting Constitutional Court Chairman Nikolay Vitruk considers it necessary to adopt a new law on the Constitutional Court and for it to be included in the very first legislative package of the new parliament.

In an interview with INTERFAX today, Vitruk pointed out that the Constitutional Court was essential as a democratic and law-based institution. He added that it should resume its activities immediately after the convocation of the new parliament. Presently, the body is suspended by a presidential decree.

Probably, there will be two laws on the Constitutional Court adopted: one on its composition and the procedure for electing the judges, while the other will deal with procedural issues.

In any case, while creating a new legislative base for the Constitutional Court, it is necessary to take into account its numerous flaws, which have come to light.

Vitruk pointed to the old procedure for electing judges as the body's main defect. The new law must provide guarantees for preventing the judges from being involved in politics.

Vitruk said it is parliamentary factions that earlier nominated their candidates for the body, thus making them politically biased from the very beginning.

He suggested that a judicial collegium should approve candidates for the Constitutional Court, taking into account their professional qualities, health and personal characteristics. Under another variant, the president, parliament and judicial collegium will each propose a certain amount of candidates. Vitruk pointed out that in this case it would be necessary to ensure their rotation, citing as an example the Constitutional Court of Lithuania where three judges are elected for 3 years, another three for 6 and the other three for 9 years.

It is especially necessary to ensure the rotation in such a difficult transition period as we are facing now. He pointed out that the permanent character of the present Constitutional Court had virtually lead it into a deadlock. The judges have divided into two factions, and the majority may take any decision it likes at any time.

Vitruk agrees that the rotation runs counter to the principle of the judges' right not to be removed. However, he said that the Constitutional Court is a specific body, and the situation should be taken into account in dealing with it. "On the one hand, the principle of the right not to be replaced ensures the independence of the judges, but on the other - is it always for the good?" he asked.

The acting court chairman noted that the judges would take part in the Constitutional Conference as private persons to stand up for constitutional justice in the form of an independent constitutional court.

Membership, Tasks of Commission on Local Government Detailed

LD1310212593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1318 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Yermakova]

[Excerpt] Moscow, 13 Oct—The Federal State Commission, set up by Boris Yeltsin's decree, has been given the task to draw up and submit to the president suggestions on the structure of the new bodies of representative power and local self-government, and on the legal background for elections to these bodies. The commission is chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Shakhray.

Anatoliy Sliva, the deputy head of the state legal administration, who is also a member of the commission, has told an ITAR-TASS correspondent that such a reform has long been overdue. "The commission has to tackle the difficult task of giving a fresh impetus to developing the state structure and self-government in the wake of various events that took place in September and October," he said.

According to Anatoliy Sliva, there are knowledgeable people "from all levels of the state hierarchy and local self-government" among the 20 members of the commission. It includes, for instance, heads of administrations of Nizhnyy Novgorod, Krasnodar and Krasnoyarsk Krays, Moscow Oblast, and Evenkian Autonomous Okrug. The president of Kabarda-Balkaria, and Supreme Soviet chairmen of Chuvashia and Karelia are also working in the commission, together with some professionals from the government apparatus and the president's administration. [passage omitted]

Panel on Former Deputies Meets

PM1310144993 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 3

[ITAR-TASS report: "Guarantees, But Not for Everyone. Commission Set Up To Identify Group of People to Whom Russian President's Edict Does Not Extend"]

[Text] The Russian presidential administration's operational information center reported that a commission was set up by order of the head of the Russian president's administration 8 October this year to implement the Russian president's Edict No. 1590 of 6 October 1993 "On Not Extending State Guarantees of Social Protection to Certain Former Russian Federation People's Deputies." The commission's task is to identify the group of people to whom the above edict does not extend.

Aleksey Porfiryevich Surkov, senior secretary of the supervisory and oversight council under the head of the president's administration, who previously worked at the prosecutor's office and as a Russian people's deputy, has been appointed commission chairman. He was an active member of the parliamentary commission investigating the causes of the coup d'etat of August 1991.

At their first session 11 October the members of the commission discussed the criteria for evaluating the behavior of their colleagues among the corps of deputies during the military revolt [voyennye myatezh] in

Moscow. All the participants in the session were unanimous in thinking that, in addition to objectivity, the principle of humanity must prevail in the course of the examination.

Ex-Supreme Soviet Staff Seeks Federal Assembly Jobs

LD1310134993 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0725 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] One thousand and forty-four employees of the staff of the former Russian Supreme Soviet have expressed a desire to work on the staff of the Federal Assembly. However, in accordance with a presidential decree, the staff will only number 537 employees.

Chernomyrdin Receives Youth Representatives

LD1310203893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1828 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow October 13 TASS - Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin met on Wednesday [13 October] with representatives of Russia's youth associations and entrepreneurial structures.

Participants in the meeting discussed some problems of federal youth policy and outlined concrete measures to solve these problems.

The prime minister expressed fears that youth would not be properly represented in the state duma (the lower chamber of a new Russian legislature). He welcomed the intention by youth associations to step up activities to nominate their candidates for the December 12 elections.

Council of Ministers Issues Directives

PM1310085593 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 12 Oct 93 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Directives of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers Government"]

[Text] **Directive No. 1772, 8 October 1993**

1. The Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Russian State Committee for Federation and Nationalities Affairs, in conjunction with the Russian Academy of Sciences, are tasked with organizing 12-14 October 1993 in the city of Moscow an international seminar on questions of federalism as provided for by the Program on Joint Measures by the Russian Federation and Council of Europe.

2. The Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is to be allocated 9.8 billion rubles from funds earmarked for sundry expenses under the Russian Federation republic budget to cover expenditure on preparing and holding the international seminar mentioned in Item 1 of this directive.

[Signed] V. Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers (Government), Moscow.

Directive No. 1773, 7 October 1993

"On the Deputy Leader of the Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring":

Valeriy Nikolayevich Dyadyuchenko is hereby appointed deputy leader of the Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring.

[Signed] V. Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers (Government), Moscow.

Directive No. 1782, 7 October 1993

The Russian Federation Council of Ministers (Government) 27 July 1993 Directive No. 1334 "On the Deputy Chairman of the Russian Federation State Committee for Industrial Policy" is hereby abrogated in connection with the failure by the post's appointee, A.A. Kondratyev, to begin work, having tendered no valid reason.

[Signed] V. Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers (Government), Moscow.

Yeltsin Edicts, Government Directives Detailed

PM1310161593 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 2

[Unattributed "Workdesk" column report]

[Text] The edict "On Legal Regulation in the Period of the Stage-by-Stage Constitutional Reform in the Russian Federation" has confirmed the operation throughout Russian territory of the Russian Federation laws and directives of the Congress of People's Deputies and Russian Federation Supreme Soviet adopted before 21 September 1993. It has also confirmed the continuity of the legislative base of the former USSR insofar as it does not contradict Russian Federation legislation adopted since 12 June 1990. It has been stipulated that until the start of the work of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly the Russian Federation president regulates questions relegated to the competence of the Russian Federation Congress of People's Deputies and Supreme Soviet—questions of the Russian Federation republican budget, federal taxes and levies, banking, foreign economic and investment activity, currency and financial and customs regulation, money emission, land reform, ownership, the federal state service, and social protection for the population.

An edict has been signed "On the Procedure for Appointing and Dismissing the Heads of Administration of Krays, Oblasts, the Autonomous Oblast, Autonomous Okrugs, and Cities of Federal Importance." The administration heads mentioned in the document title in accordance with the edict are henceforth appointed and

dismissed only by the Russian Federation president upon representation from the chairman of the Council of Ministers-Government of the Russian Federation.

Viktor Chernomyrdin has signed a directive "On the Federal Administration for Insolvency (bankruptcy) Cases Under the Russian Federation State Committee for the Administration of State Property." He has approved a provision regulating the activity of the new government structure. The main task of the Federal Administration for Bankruptcy cases will be primarily to pursue state policy aimed at preventing the insolvency (bankruptcy) of enterprises, rendering aid to such enterprises, and organizing work to attract Russian and foreign investors to take part in financing reorganization procedures.

A national aid fund for Russian Federation invalids has been formed. The relevant government directive approves the national fund charter, its board of trustees, and the statute on the board of trustees. The Russian Federation Ministry of Finances has been instructed to earmark 100 million rubles to the national fund's incorporation capital as the state's contribution. Moreover, the government has taken an utterly unprecedented step: The Russian Federation committee for state reserves must release from the state reserve and hand over to the national fund for sale for export goods in a range and in volumes which ensure that the national fund receives a currency revenue of at least $1 million. This revenue will be regarded as an additional state contribution to the incorporation capital of the national aid fund for Russian Federation invalids.

The Russian Government directive "On the Size of Compensation for the Discrepancy in Interest Rates Under Preferential Credits" stipulates that credits (including extended credits) issued using the centralized resources of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, are supplied as of the moment this directive enters into force and only at the rate of the Central Bank. As of today this rate, as we know, is 200 percent. Thus the time for preferential credits using state resources has ended.

In connection with the fact that recently cases of fish poaching by foreign ships have become more common in Russian territorial waters, the government has adopted a directive "On Additional Measures to Preserve Living Resources and Protect the Russian Federation's Fishing Interests in the Sea of Okhotsk." Henceforth, the supply of quotas for catching fish and other living resources in these waters to foreign corporate bodies and individuals is ended. The servicing in Russian ports of foreign ships that are fishing or have previously fished in the central part of the Sea of Okhotsk is banned.

Shoygu Named Head of Commission for Disaster Relief

LD1310171993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1257 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Moscow October 13 TASS—The Russian Government has issued a decree establishing Russia's National Commission for Disaster Relief to be chaired by head of Russia's State Committee for Emergencies Sergey Shoygu, a spokesman for the committee told ITAR-TASS today.

The commission was set up after Russia joined the U.N. initiative on cooperation in promoting disaster preparedness and prevention in January 1992. Earlier, in late eighties, the United Nations announced the nineties international decade for disaster relief.

October 13 was declared International Day for Disaster Relief in 1992.

Natural calamities annually kill some 250,000 people over the world and cause damage estimated at up 40-50 billion U.S. dollars a year.

Communist Leader Assails Yeltsin 'Dictatorship'

AU1310155293 Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 11 Oct 93 p 7

[Interview with Gennadiy Zyuganov, "chairman of the Russian Communist Party and co-chairman of the Salvation Front," by Klaus Joachim Herrmann on 8 October; place not given: "In the Hour Between Legality and Prohibition"]

[Text] Born into a family of teachers, Gennadiy Andreyevich Zyuganov, 48, used to work as a teacher at secondary schools and universities himself. A doctor of philosophy, Zyuganov is married, has two children and one grandchild, and loves sports and classical literature.

A former secretary of the central committee of the Communist Party of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, Zyuganov was elected chairman of the party's central executive committee at the second extraordinary congress of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation in February 1993. At the same time, he remained co-chairman of the National Salvation Front. The leftist politician, who was actively involved in the events around Moscow's White House, is regarded as a partner ready for dialogue and integration by some, and as a restorer of old structures by others.

After the fall of the White House on 4 October, Gennadiy Zyuganov was not to be found anywhere. His wife only knew that he was alive. The party had not been banned, and its leader was not wanted by the police or the authorities. According to what the head of the election commission, Nikolay Ryabov, said on Friday morning, the Russian Communist Party would be permitted to take part in the 12 December election. That night it was banned by the justice minister. In the hour between legality and prohibition, Gennadiy Zyuganov granted an interview to Japanese television and our Moscow correspondent, Klaus Joachim Herrmann.

[Herrmann] What is going on in Russia?

[Zyuganov] A personal dictatorship is currently being established that does not have the necessary potential and intellectual abilities. The system was unable to solve the problems, and now the foundations of Russian statehood and the legal opposition are being liquidated. Moscow might drive the country to civil war. There are no longer any legitimate power structures. We have repeated the fate of the Chechen capital! As early as 21 September I warned of such a development.

Just take the fact that a blacklist including almost 30 organizations had been prepared. Even the survival of trade unions is now uncertain. The work of the constitutional court has been suspended. He who gives the order to fire with tanks against the supreme body of power has forfeited his legitimacy.

[Herrmann] Has the Communist Party been banned in Russia or only in the capital, or....

[Zyuganov] The list of bans can be divided into three categories. The first consists of those that have been banned. We are in the second category at the moment—prohibition candidates. The activities of the Moscow city organization have been suspended due to the state of emergency.

[Herrmann] The demonstrations for the liberation of the parliament took place under red banners. Were the flags of your party among them?

[Zyuganov] The demonstrations were held under many different flags. There were red ones, black and white ones, Czarist flags, and church flags. It was a popular protest against everything that has happened recently.

The access to the supreme legislative body had been blocked, power and water lines were cut, not even medical help could get through. This was a violation of basic human rights. Conflicts were constantly being provoked, which led to mass protest with the participation of totally different political forces.

[Herrmann] To what extent was the Communist Party involved in the 3-4 October events?

[Zyuganov] The party supported the Congress of People's Deputies and the Supreme Soviet. Its Moscow branch provided moral and political assistance and participated in the rallies in front of the Supreme Soviet building. However, we have been against the use of force. One must not protect the constitution by unconstitutional means. Never.

[Herrmann] How do you assess the attitude of the West?

[Zyuganov] The attitudes do not seem to be unambiguous but are diverse. No elected legislative organ has officially expressed its support for Yeltsin's policy. Yeltsin was supported by executive structures that I think will have their own problems once the situation in Russia has been finally and properly assessed. Then people will understand that such an attitude is a boomerang that can come back to haunt the Western nations' power structures.

[Herrmann] I saw you on television as you were appealing for dialogue and compromise in the last minute. Yet, you were also in the White House—with a submachine gun?

[Zyuganov] I have never had a submachine gun in my hands. I know what war means. A politician who uses weapons is no longer a politician. I tried to use all my authority and all my connections to prevent a senseless and uncontrolled escalation of the confrontation. I tried to get in contact with the leadership of the country, the constitutional court, officials of the Federation and church dignitaries. I wanted to appeal for dialogue to achieve the protection of the elected bodies and developments in Russia that are in line with our Constitution.

[Herrmann] Elections will be held in December. Will your party participate?

[Zyuganov] We talked about it yesterday and resolved first to study the situation in every region, analyze it, and then decide after collective consultations. These elections have been decreed by the president. They are not legitimate. On the other hand, a political organization should fully take advantage of a major campaign to bring its views closer to the citizens of the country—unless it is prevented from doing so.

[Herrmann] Presidential elections have been announced for next June. Will you be a candidate for the opposition?

[Zyuganov] This decision has to be made by the block of popular-patriotic forces, whose chairman I am. I am in favor of electing the president through an electoral body. We must prevent a repetition of the confrontation such as the one that is dominating political life at the moment.

[Herrmann] What if things do not change?

[Zyuganov] Each system is a product of collective bodies or individual personalities. Therefore, we want to have an influence on it. I do not rule out that many political forces of the Federation will present their own model for electing the Russian head of state.

[Herrmann] What does that mean?

[Zyuganov] Let us wait and see.

New Movement Created, Decries 'Dictatorship'

LD1310173993 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By correspndent E. Guretskaya; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] A new opposition has announced its birth. It is called the Movement for the Defense of Democracy and Human Rights [Vizheniye v Zashchitu Demokratii I Prav Cheloveka]. The movement does not yet exist, but there is an organizing committee that includes the dissident (?Yegidas) who lives in France, the journalist (?Goritskaya), Labor Party leader and formerly one of

the leaders of the Marxist Platform of the CPSU Buzgalin, and others. In their opinion, the recent events in Moscow have opened the way to dictatorship, and therefore, they see as their main task the setting up of a citizens' structure of resistance to authoritarianism. They are prepared to take this mission upon themselves.

The leaders of the new movement hope to win the recognition of the masses in the struggle for trampled human rights. Describing themselves as a nonviolent opposition, they will insist on their rights to act within the framework of the Constitution and on free access to the state network of mass information.

A news conference was held at which a statement of the collective of the closed newspaper PRAVDA, who consider themselves to be victims of an attack on freedom of speech, was distributed.

Muscovites Polled on State of Emergency, Elections

MK1310091793 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 3

[KOMMERSANT-DAILY "Politics" Department report: "Results of a Sociological Poll"]

[Text] The processing of the results of a telephone poll conducted among 560 residents of the city by the Institute of Comparative Social Studies (TsESSI) on 5-6 October ended yesterday. The poll's data show that Moscow invariably supports democrats and seems to be longing for a "strong hand" capable of imposing order in the capital of Russia. The majority of respondents, however, are not ready to back just any "strong hand." Fifty-nine percent approve of the president's resolute actions in respect to the Supreme Soviet, while 23 percent think he should not have taken such actions. At the same time, 90 percent approve of the imposition of the state of emergency in Moscow. More than that, while fears are voiced in society that Yeltsin's personal power may lead to dangerous consequences, Muscovites appear not to see anyone who could become his worthy contender. Thus, 38.5 percent of those polled are ready to vote for Yeltsin in the new elections; 7.6 percent are going to back Yavlinskiy; and 1.8 percent will back Chernomyrdin. Thus, the public poll conducted by TsESSI shows that Muscovites are placing their bets precisely on Yeltsin. They are even prepared to reconcile themselves to the fact that the future parliament may not become a serious counterweight to the president. In addition, so far they do not share the aspirations of the majority of today's parties for equal participation in ruling the country through the Federal Assembly (see diagram). [table, answers in percentages]

Do you think really democratic elections can be held in the situation that has taken shape?

Yes	38
No	43
Hard to say	19

Which party or movement's representatives would you vote for?

Democratic Russia	29
Independent candidates	23
Communists and national patriots	2
Civic Union and other centrists	1
Party of Entrepreneurs	3

Of those polled, 41 percent found it hard to answer the question.

Polled on Storming of White House

PM1310151193 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 1

[Report by Olga Gerasimenko: "Each Has His Own Opinion"]

[Text] For the second week now the country is "moving away" from the bloody tragedy. Politicians and analysts are rushing to have their say regarding what has happened.

Gr. Pashkov's "mneniye" service has published the results of a telephone poll conducted 4 October among 700 inhabitants of the capital.

According to the figures obtained 55.3 percent of Muscovites polled approved the authorities' actions in undertaking the armed storming of the White House. Some 17.3 percent called this decision "wrong." Here every fifth person polled found it hard to answer.

Muscovites' assessments of the actions of the armed forces in storming the White House are curious: Some 37 percent believed these actions to be too irresolute; 13.6 percent, on the contrary, considered them too tough, while every third person could not make up his mind to assess the stormers' activities so soon after the event

Life will have its own say. We shall not guess today, one week on, whether we would count so many supporters of tough methods of resolving political conflicts—after the publication of some details of the taking of the White House, the uncontrolled behavior of the special militia detachments during the curfew, and the decision of the local authorities to forcibly abolish the soviets.

'Conspiracy' Still Seen as Threat

PM1310132193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 93 First Edition p 5

[Otto Latsis article: "The Dragon Has More Than One Head. About the Nature of the Conspiracy Tormenting Russia"]

[Text] It is hard to say whether the political forces of the revolt will stay knocked out for long. But society is surprisingly quickly shaking off the psychological shock caused by the October bloodshed in Moscow. In cheerful arguments on the screen and in the press about the causes of the tragedy, voices are being heard increasingly frequently, which extenuate or entirely deny the guilt of those who first took up arms. Regardless of the subjective intentions and the arguments being cited, such political logic can mean just one thing: The use of armed violence to resolve political tasks is deemed permissible. If you take such logic on board, new bloodshed will not be far off. There is no getting away from arguments, and a precise understanding of what happened is necessary.

The Army Is Outside Politics

It is often said that the most dangerous event for Russia's future during the October days was the Army's intervention in politics. It seems to me that great confusion lies behind this claim, and this confusion really is dangerous. An independent political decision by an army, opposition by it to the lawful government, or a refusal to support the lawful government could fairly be called interference. A graphic modern example is Pinochet's coup in Chile. Examples in Russian history are the accession of Catherine to the throne, the assassination of Emperor Paul, and the widest interference in 1917. Among the many unsuccessful attempts that embraced just a part of the army were the Decembrists' uprising, the Potemkin mutiny, and Kronshtadt. There have been no such attempts in Russia since 1921. In all cases the Army has participated in events in recent years not of its own choice but in accordance with a decision by the lawful state government.

The politicians' decision to use the army was criminal in Tbilisi and Vilnius, where it was sent in against an unarmed population. It was criminal in Baku, where it was necessary to stop violence, but the troops were sent in late and the chief blow was not directed against the users of force. All these were crimes by politicians, not by an army. The USE of the army in internal conflicts is not a gift either. In every instance it means in itself a defeat for the political forces, which should refrain from involving it until the last possible moment. This grave measure, which in principle is permitted by law, must not be confused with army INTERFERENCE in politics, i.e. with an independent political choice by the military. It would have been interference if the Army had stormed the White House in August 1991 on the orders of a handful of impostors, against the lawful president and commander in chief. It would have been interference if the Army had NOT stormed it in October 1993 when ordered to do so by the lawful president and commander in chief.

It is to the Army's honor that it has not interfered in politics. What, then, did happen?

Was There a Conspiracy?

A U.S. journalist asked me about the events of bloody Sunday, 3 October. We were discussing a mysterious episode: The security organs failed to tell the government and the president that the people in the White House had quickly managed to assemble a pretty large combat organization by summoning to Moscow Riga Special Purpose Militia Detachment [OMON] members from Tyumen, Dniester region guardsmen, "volunteers" from Abkhazia, and other "soldiers of fortune." The gunmen's strike from the rear, from outside the cordon around the White House, proved unexpected and, thus, successful and helped the rebels to seize the initiative for a few brief yet very alarming hours. Who knows what a conflagration would have blazed in the country if the bandits had succeeded in what they almost succeeded in: gaining complete control of television, forcing their way onto the air, and shouting about their victory.

"Does this mean they had conspired over a long period, over several months?" the American asked. This question suddenly put everything in its place. The disparate facts of recent years formed themselves into an overall picture. The very geography of the bloody events—the Baltic region, the Dniester region, Abkhazia—really has printed someone's route on the map as a bold dotted line, as it were.

There was a conspiracy, and there was no conspiracy. It is clear that the specific plan—to assemble gunmen from all over Russia, to break through the cordon, and to make a dash for the television in order to urge all supporters in hiding to act—such a plan could have come into being only in respect of a specific situation, i.e. after 21 September or somewhat earlier, when the likelihood of a "siege" of the White House could have been calculated. Such a specific conspiracy plan could hardly have existed in advance. Detachments of gunmen ready to assemble at a signal, as well as the leaders' links with these gunmen, must have been taking shape over months and years. Not so much in the form of quiet gatherings in secret apartments as in actual fact. It was not the September edict on elections that rallied the rebels. The conspiracy came into being much earlier. Its constant aim was to kill the reforms. The strike against Moscow was merely one more interim aim on a long path.

"We Have a Common Aim"

I have spoken with a Finnish journalist who got into the White House back at the end of September and looked in on "Rutskoy's regiment," where followers of Anpilov and Zyuganov had united with those of Barkashov.

"You are communists," she told the followers of Zyuganov and Anpilov. "Why aren't you ashamed to be with fascists?"

"We have a common aim," they answered her.

What aim, then, united them? A return to the past. They wish once again to see the country at least as it was up

until August 1991. Better still—up until March 1985, when Gorbachev was admitted to the controls of power. Or up until March 1956, when Khrushchev said too much at the 20th Congress. But it would be most reliable for them to return to the epoch up until March 1953, when He Himself kept an eye on order. Of course, the majority of them do not want the country as it really was at that time but as it seemed to them at that time, or even as they see it now in their deceptive memories. But this is not what is important—what is important is that they believe in the very possibility of making the country be the way they want it to be, simply on the orders of a man with an assault rifle. They believe that it is a matter only of replacing the politicians who for some reason are giving the country incorrect orders—either they are not clever enough or they have sold themselves to imperialism. They believe that everything will go right as soon as the right leaders order prices to fall, non-Russians to love the empire, and the rest of mankind to admire the motherland of October. They believe that for the sake of such an aim it is permissible to shoot and kill, because "this is what the people want." If they do not want it, it is all the more permissible, because such people are not worth pitying.

People with such a level of thinking governed the country for decades. Their rule was legal-underground rule: Legalized secrecy was their most important weapon. Guidance papers with formidable stamps, secret instructions which stood above the overt laws; censors, invisible to readers but well known to journalists; a closed system for the distribution of material benefits, which was more important to the powers that be than open trade; finally, a party whose laws were placed above the state's laws—all this was our life quite recently.

This machine has disintegrated, but its cogs remain and are like fish out of water in the new life. They are united no longer by the former discipline but by an elusive web of personal relationships—both former acquaintances and new contacts. They are finding and groping for one another, recognizing one another by voice, intonation, look. Because they want one and the same thing. The majority merely sympathize with revanchism and silently hope for revenge, but an active minority is weaving a net of conspiracy.

At one time its first aim was the Baltic region, and the first step according to the plan was to bring into the streets opposing masses of people: the indigenous population and newcomers. A provocation was considered a reliable means of doing this. Then it was planned to declare the need to prevent mass bloodshed—to call on the Army's help to do so. And, of course, to introduce a state of emergency. Then the "solution to the problem": autonomous territorial formations of ethnic minorities as a means of pressuring a disobedient republic. If you want to preserve territorial integrity, show submissiveness, or else Lithuania will be left without Vilnius, Latvia without Daugavpils or even without Riga, and Estonia without Narva or even without Tallinn.

In Riga, as in Vilnius, the very first thing out of this plan did occur: a provocation. At this stage the fulfillment of their plan was cut short, because the Russian-speaking population did not take to the streets beneath red flags, and Russia came out sharply, through Yeltsin, against an imperial policy. For the Baltic region the matter ended with 13 dead in Vilnius and four dead in Riga. But the scheme of the conspiracy continued to work: The tragedy of Bendery awaited Moldova, and the carnage in Abkhazia awaited Georgia. In those republics the conspirators not only advanced further in implementing the plan but also created combat cadres and a military organization. Neither the CPSU Central Committee nor the USSR's punitive organs exist any longer, but the plan of the conspiracy is working, with only the details being modified in respect of the situation. Its aim in Russia differs from that in neighboring republics, and so the subsequent components of the plan have been changed. However, the first component is just the same: to organize a provocation, bring crowds of people out onto the streets, clash with the militia, and secure the first bloodshed. This was the endeavor of Anpilov's followers both 1 May on Leninskiy Prospekt and 2-3 October on Smolenskaya Ploshchad. I believe that the plan is being carried out partly by the same people who created this plan four years ago—in any case, by people in the same circle. You have only to take a look at the National Salvation Front, which unites former KGB functionaries, former Army political workers, and former and present communist leaders. But only partly by the same people. The wars in the Dniester region and Abkhazia were not the same as the exchanges of fire in Vilnius and Riga. They involved many thousands of people and gave rise to a breed of professionals who had tasted blood. In addition, two years of life under conditions of the transitional period have changed the sentiments of millions.

The Dragon Wants To Crawl Into Every Home

In fact, this image has long been familiar to mankind. The many-headed serpent Gorynych in old fairytales, or Yevgeniy Shvarts' dragon—these are symbols which help us to understand the nature of the modern conspiracy against the new Russia. The conspiracy dragon also has more than one head and also is unafraid of losing one of its heads. This is why the October defeat certainly does not mean the end of it. "Our" dragon is not only detachments of gunmen, although these do exist. It is not only a multicomponent, flexible political organization, although this also exists. It is not even a strictly defined social stratum, although it undoubtedly has a social base. In addition to all this, there is also some sentiment. A nostalgia for the past, to which they would like to return. More or less strong elements of such nostalgia are evidently felt by the majority of those who lived on the territory of the USSR, and this is probably normal. For quite a significant minority such nostalgia determines their entire view of the world. It is also being relied on by those politicians who are fighting against reforms. Politicians who advocate reforms must reckon with it.

I believe that the 20-40 percent of Russians who come out against the government's policy in various polls with regard to one thing or another is normal, even low for such a drastic change in all life. But it seems to me that all politicians, including the conscientious opposition, must be very concerned about the 7 percent of people polled who approved of the rebels' actions in one poll conducted after the revolt. Such a proportion of people approving of armed violence as a means of resolving internal political tasks is a terribly large number for any society. Behind this lies a disease of a society which was schooled in violence as a norm of politics over many decades, if not centuries. This is the heart of the dragon, which cannot suddenly be taken and killed—lead us not, oh Lord, into temptation.

The primary task in fighting the dragon is different. Let them be dissatisfied and disagree, let them freely express themselves, freely create legitimate political organizations, and elect their representatives to parliament. The dragon must not be driven underground—it is more dangerous there. The dragon will die itself in time—when all the people who now mourn the past have found themselves a mainstay in the new life. The very best thing that we can do is to help them in this. But any call for violence and any attempt to organize violence must be nipped in the bud long before the party of war dares to go over to the attack once again.

'Social Decomposition' Blamed for Recent Events

MK1310105893 Moscow MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI in Russian No. 42, 17 Oct 93 (signed to press 12 Oct) p A9

[Len Karpinskiy, MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI editor in chief, article under the "In the Country" rubric: "How To Defend Democracy From Democrats"]

[Text] God forbid that we should fall into a convenient, one-sided pattern, put up with the premise that black cannot be white and white cannot be black, and look for one answer to many diverse questions.

Yes, red flags were indeed sticking up from the crowd of those who perpetrated the pogrom. This was not a coincidence but a deep mutual penetration of communist utopianism and violence, social demagoguery and looting.

However, a lot of questions remain unanswered, such as "Who is to blame?" Communist ideology is partially responsible, but what we witnessed was to a much greater extent a concentrated release of the byproducts of social decomposition that followed August 1991. A decomposition cast into bullets and formed into the ranks of frenzied hit men. A decomposition in the sphere of authority that turned politics into a tool for individuals to insult other individuals and loot state assets.

Moscow remembers these professional raiders, but it will also not forget its own teenagers who took it into their heads to "play real war"—along with a huge crowd of idle onlookers outside the White House, who came to watch how their compatriots were assiduously killing each other.

A large number of people turned out to be hostage to the events. I fear that this will produce a host of those fond of pointing an accusatory finger at their neighbors for abetting the rebellion. Those fond of exposing and pillorying. In other words, of smearing the independently thinking part of society with the blood spilled by the pogrom perpetrators.

"To nip the beast?" Yes, I agree, but what is needed is a precise scope and perfectly accurate addresses of this mysterious being. Who, where, how, and when? For instance, there is no reason to consider thousands of members of large and inner councils in the regions accomplices in the bloody adventure of the White House's chiefs. Dissolving or boycotting the soviets as a political tactic was invented by those same Bolsheviks. In July 1917, when they did not like the soviets' party makeup and policy; in 1918, when the soviets were replaced with poor people's committees because the former were about to defend the peasants' genuine interests. So, it does not matter whether particular soviets will be dissolved or not, nor is the dismantlement of the soviet structure in general all that counts. What is at issue is uprooting a monopolistic authority that bypasses the law while disguising itself behind it.

If the new parliament is not to inherit the soviets' arbitrary powers, we need a free atmosphere for holding elections. It is not quite clear how political pluralism as an organic link of democracy is possible in a situation where a wide range of left-wing political parties and movements were banned together with their press organs.

Since 21 September, we have already witnessed arbitrariness with respect to information on all the television channels. The introduction of censorship, albeit technically legal, was not needed at all. Insidious publications had already ceased, hence, the thrust was aimed at independent, democratic newspapers.

Apparently, the winning bureaucratic state structure—for this is what the staff of the president and the government amount to—is setting out immediately in pursuit of power, trying to obtain from the state of emergency as many emergency powers as possible. The "victory" of the democrats from the presidential camp, to all appearances, raises the problem of defending democracy from the winners themselves.

From the very outset, the presidential edict of 21 September dragged Russia into the too familiar situation of dual law. A law that "we need" and a law that "we do not."

It was not actually the constitution that was violated. What was damaged were such crucial institutions of democratic civilization as the elected official and the elected body. People's deputies were not only dismissed.

they were literally reduced to nonexistence. Deprived of their social functions, they were treated as if they were physically nonexistent. However much—and however convincingly—one might talk about the need to dissolve the Supreme Soviet and the congress ("this had to be done"), the splinter of an illegal action has stuck deep in the body of a young, insecure democracy. Furthermore, it started festering right away, not after some time. The temptation of arbitrariness was sown. What will be its young growth?

The government obtained unique opportunities to let live all those who can, and want to, live and to let all who can't or don't die in peace. The joy of a government shed of the congress and pseudoparliament that hung over it is understandable. But don't the bureaucrats have another joy—the joy of freedom from supervision by any representative bodies of authority? Now the price of a desk chief's resolution is becoming an absolute value.

The saying "Victors are not judged" has taken hold. At present, however, applying this proverb would be very dangerous. An initially implanted element of arbitrariness may grow with the yeast of the winners' complacency into blatant political petty tyranny.

Generally speaking, we may just as well forgo attempts to protect democracy from the winners' administrative attack. After all, economic reform, from which we expect a better life in the first place, is not necessarily directly related to political democracy. We can do without it. However, it would be advisable to bear in mind that the presidency in this country and President Yeltsin himself emerged on the crest of a powerful democratic upsurge. It is also well known that Yeltsin's actions were supported by heads of the world's leading powers because they counted on Russia's democratic development. To say nothing of the conditions for supporting their president set by his thinking compatriots.

Intelligence Officer Claims Yeltsin Set 'Trap' for Rutskoy

MK1310121693 Moscow MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI in Russian No. 42, 17 Oct 93 (signed to press 12 Oct) pp A4-A5

[Article by unidentified intelligence officer under the "Expert Appraisal" rubric: "The Parliament Swallowed the President's Bait"—first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] A specialist of a rare profession—on the conduct of putsches, coups, and military political provocations and on their localization—comments on the October events in Moscow. A colonel and senior research associate in a closed scientific and research institute, he took part in such actions in Latin American countries and Indochina on assignment for the USSR Government. For understandable reasons, MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI does not disclose his name.

That Boris Yeltsin was getting ready to decisively do away with the parliament became clear when several months ago on the president's order, the special troops of the Security Ministry were transferred to the jurisdiction of the Internal Affairs Ministry and partially to the Defense Ministry. His 21 September edict, however, was a more spontaneous than premeditated move. As far as I know, the president was advised not to ignore the [parliament] speaker's insulting gesture toward him. But did he himself believe in a peaceful outcome of the offensive against the parliament?

The indications are that neither Yeltsin nor Grachev was completely sure how the army, including the top generals, would behave in the extraordinary situation that took shape after 21 September. That was why the telephone lines to the Defense Ministry were disconnected: It was vital to prevent an information leak and also to stop the Yeltsin-Grachev opponents in the ministry's central apparatus from uniting. Without communication, they had to meet in rooms, which could not pass unnoticed. For the same reason Grachev resorted to a "military ploy": He summoned his deputies and commanders in chief of the armed services ostensibly for a conference and then invited journalists, who started asking the generals direct questions: Who is for [Yeltsin]? Thus the writing folks helped Grachev to "pin down" the supreme command. I am sure that this was not an accidental move.

Why did Yeltsin not bet on military force at once? First, he was afraid of a negative reaction from the West. Second, he overestimated his political capital in Russia, assuming that the people would actively support his actions. Third, he underestimated the decisiveness of the Federation components and did not calculate their retaliatory moves. Fourth, he apparently trusted the assurances of Yerin and Grachev, who promised to enforce order should the situation become exacerbated.

And what about the mutineers? Like the president, Rutskoy strongly overestimated his popularity among the people. Nonetheless, his tactic was not all senseless: to barricade themselves in the "White House" and show the whole world "how the deputies are being exterminated." As a military man, he could not but understand that an open armed showdown would not end in the parliament's favor—the forces were too unequal. Therefore, he gave hell to Khasbulatov who had hastened to distribute weapons indiscriminately, which provoked the sealing off of the building.

After the mutineers straightened out the arms problem, the concertina wire and OMON chains around the "White House" began to work against Boris Yeltsin. The West can turn a blind eye to illegal actions by a leader amenable to it (as was the case, for instance, with Pinochet), but if this leader is incapable of quickly turning the situation in his favor and if repressive measures continue for too long, the "civilized world" begins to frown. Aware of this, Yeltsin had to force events.

Quite inappropriately for the president, Aleksiy II intervened in the conflict. In situations like the one that developed by early October, political manipulations play a major role. The Church for its part tried to play an honest game. And an honest game could lead only to one result: simultaneous elections of all power branches, which did not suit Yeltsin. Circumstances forced him to go for broke. On 1 October a presidential edict was issued awarding Internal Affairs Minister Yerin the rank of Army General, which in the context of the events that followed could be appraised as advance payment for pledged loyalty—especially considering that at that time Grachev disappeared from the public eye. The defense minister had only one concern: to localize the emerging split in the armed forces.

As soon as the government presented the rebels with an ultimatum, it became clear that Yeltsin was radically changing his plans. Everything that happened from 1 to 3 October until the moment when Rutskoy called: "Onward, to City Hall, to Ostankino!" was what in our jargon is called "casting the bait."

Those who barricaded themselves in the "White House" began to be treated to convincing disinformation. Over 12 days people in an enclosed space can be driven to psychosis by, for instance, playing the same tune over and over. The main thing is not to allow people to get any sleep and to keep them in suspense. At the same time, provocateurs are used within the "enemy" camp who prepare the requisite conduct by leaders (commanders) at the culminating moment.

It was far from accidental that on 3 October a crowd of 10,000 easily broke through the police cordon. Let us consider: By that time there were approximately 6,000 specially trained OMON troops in Moscow. In other words, there were less than two demonstrators per OMON officer. With this correlation of forces OMON had 10 minutes' work at the most. In an emergency (using arms) one OMON officer can take on 1,200 people and neutralize [kladet] them.

For me as a professional, Sunday's events are very telling. Yerin is also a professional and he surely understood very well that as the ultimatum deadline was running out, the parliament's supporters would take decisive actions. If the authorities had really wanted to avoid blood, elementary preventive measures would have been taken.

These measures are obvious:

1. Closing off the exit of the Oktyabrskaya metro station and adjacent stations.

2. Sealing off all approaches to Oktyabrskaya Square.

3. Erecting a barrier of loaded trucks on the Krymskiy Bridge. Incidentally, near the [Gorkiy] Park of Culture there is a wonderful place for blocking demonstrations and it was there that OMON troops should have been concentrated.

4. Putting reliable cordons of vehicles—APC's—along the crowd's line of march. However, this was not done either on Smolensk Square or on the Garden Ring.

5. In the end the crowd of 10,000 could simply have been dispersed by mounted police.

At the "White House" events were unfolding in a way that was more than strange. When it became known that the demonstrators were on the home straight, both the OMON and the police had time to regroup their forces—to move the encirclement further from the object of protection so as to get operational room for action and to block the way with water tank trucks and APC's, of which there were plenty in the area.

It should be noted that the parliament's supporters were confronted with a line of conscripts from the Dzerzhinskiy Division who were called up only last spring. These yet untrained boys could not even run away and obediently surrendered to the rebels. As for the vehicles with the ignition keys "left in panic," this is a trick that special services use only in "banana" republics.

Ostankino employees complain that they were left without security. But there was security. General Grachev is absolutely right—there were enough forces there. It is another matter that they were inactive, allowing the combatants to shoot a little and to shatter windows. Yet no rebel managed to get into the television center's building. Nonetheless, the "mortal danger" effect was achieved.

The television people should not accuse their boss Bragin of cowardice. He could not allow panoramic filming of the events because that would have immediately revealed the inaction on the part of the law enforcement bodies. And that would have been documentary evidence of a serious political game. Moreover, as Bragin himself asserts, the blackout was effected on Chernomyrdin's orders.

Yes, the combatants at large were armed and very dangerous, but they were only dangerous to peaceful Muscovites, not to the authorities or state installations. I venture to guess that Moscow did not accidentally find itself in the hands of mad people with submachine guns. Yeltsin cleverly prepared a trap for Rutskoy and Khasbulatov. The "bait," though primitive, did its work.

However, in the heat of the power struggle the president did not notice that he himself had found himself in a trap. In fact, power today belongs to Grachev and Yerin. Tomorrow it will pass to those who lay their hands on these two power ministers....

Military Issues

Threat of 'Purge' in Defense Ministry Assessed

MK1410085893 Moscow KURANTY in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 1

[Inform-KURANTY report under the "Rumors" rubric: "Military Misalliance"]

[Text] In fact, all the power ministries are currently experiencing a kind of suspense—experienced personnel are sensing, and some even look forward to, purges and reshuffles. If a whole bunch of "father commanders" at the Internal Affairs Ministry are bracing themselves to move to more comfortable offices, people at the Defense Ministry are waiting for spectacular dismissals.

The very fact that Viktor Yerin turned out to be the hero of the day while Pavel Grachev was merely decorated with an order has given rise to fairly dire ponderings. It is expected that Pavel Grachev's deputies who did not display the desired zeal in the days of the putsch may lose their jobs. Ministry officials expect with some apprehension the dismissals of the influential Gromov and Mironov, and, possibly, Air Force Commander Deynekin. Presumably, this "purge" would also affect the ministry's rank-and-file. In a word, the Defense Ministry's fate seems to be marked by bad luck. The example of Zhukov, who also supported the leadership in the struggle with the opposition, is fresh in everyone's memory. Now the deputies' putsch may apparently spoil a number of brilliant careers.

Rumors of Purge Denied

LD1410103993 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0427 GMT 14 Oct 93

[From the "Radio Slavyanka" broadcast of the Russian Defense Ministry]

[Text] Good morning. Unfortunately we have to begin our bulletin with a number of denials. Citing unnamed sources, certain areas of the mass media have been referring to alleged disagreements in Russia's supreme military echelons. Here is what Yelena Agapova, assistant to Russia's minister of defense for public and press relations, had to say about this to our correspondent, Vadim Solovyev.

[Begin recording] [Agapova] We deplore the rumors that have been circulating recently about the army, above all about the supreme military leadership. It is being alleged that there are plans for a thorough purge of certain military chiefs who belong to the Defense Ministry's collegium. Specific names are even being mentioned. It is claimed that certain members of the collegium have already tendered their resignations.

Army General Pavel Sergeyevich Grachev, the minister of defense, regards these rumors as obvious speculation that has nothing in common with the real state of affairs. As you know, both the president, who is the supreme commander in chief, and the country's prime minister have already made an assessment of the army's actions during 3 and 4 October. These events showed that the supreme military leadership acted as one and that the army is under greater control than ever before.

So, in my view, the allegations about a split in the Army are not merely idle speculation by journalists but evidence that certain elements wish to destabilize the Armed Forces.

[Solovyev] Describing the situation within the forces in the various regions, Yelena Agapova added:

[Agapova] One thing can be said for certain. The daily reports that the minister receives about day-to-day events, about disciplinary offenses, show that the number of offenses has actually fallen markedly. None were observed, basically, on the days when these sad events occurred. [end recording]

3 Cordons Around White House To Stop Looting

PM1310154393 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 2

[Sergey Mikhaylov report: "Three Cordons Against Looters"]

[Text] The White House still has three cordons guarding it. The outer cordon, down adjoining streets, is manned by a militia battalion from Vladimir, that around the House of the Soviets by special-purpose troops from an internal troop brigade, and the one inside by a militia brigade.

Major General Arkadiy Baskayev, the White House military commandant, said that the main task now facing the commandant's office and the guards is to prevent property and material assets, including antiques—pictures, crystal, antique dinner services—from being looted. Around 300 people come here every day: the government commission, technical personnel, electricians, and sanitation engineers. Men are being posted not only at all the entrances but also at smashed ground floor windows.

The commandant also said that on one of the last few days alone 149 weapons were found, including Barannikov's own pistol, 86 mine traps, and over 1,000 explosive objects (four packs of pistol cartridges were brought along during our conversation). Arkadiy Georgiyevich displayed the log for the issue of weapons and ammunition that had been found in the White House—"for KRASNAYA ZVEZDA's correspondent only." The name Makashov was among other recipients. On one day alone he had received 80 pistols and eight cases of ammunition.

In addition Colonel Vladimir Vasilyev, commander of the MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] internal troop brigade, told me how the last defenders of the building were arrested at 0730 hours 6 October. These being four

militia staffers, three of them wearing civvies. They all claimed that they had been kept in the White House by force. The day before a 20-year-old guy blew his brains out despite protracted attempts to persuade him to give himself up.

The recent events have been a difficult ordeal for the brigade's men. Vasilyev also stressed that the equipment, the atmosphere, and the furniture in the White House offices had made a "great impression" on everyone. Each office has several telephones, an icebox, a television, video equipment, costly furniture, rugs, and food stocks enabling the occupant to live independently. An ordinary supervisor here quite recently was getting twice as much as a brigade commander.

"Our legislators led an excessively luxurious life," Vladimir Aleksandrovich concluded with military bluntness. "All the conditions were in place, all they had to do was work."

The work in the White House now is somewhat far removed from lawmaking—namely repairs.

Increased Camp Security Not Due To Threats

PM1310102593 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 1

[Report by Colonel Vladimir Guryanov of the Moscow Military District press group: "Reports of Terrorists' Threats Are Nonetheless Exaggerated"]

[Text] Citing INTERFAX, the Ostankino First Channel evening news bulletin 11 October reported that the guard on the Taman Division's cantonment has been stepped up, supposedly in connection with threatened reprisals against officers' families.

The Moscow Military District press group states in this connection that the guard on the cantonment in the village of Kalininets, where the Taman Division families live, has indeed been stepped up, as has that on other Moscow Military District military camps. However, this is not due to threats from any anonymous sources but is in line with the law on the state of emergency.

Election Issues

Shumeyko Discusses Election Issues

LD1310175093 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Vladimir Shumeyko, first deputy prime minister and minister of information and press, gave a news conference today for Russian and foreign journalists. The main topics were the upcoming elections in December, the situation in the mass media, and the present political situation. Our correspondent Vyacheslav Osipov attended the meeting with the deputy prime minister. Over to him:

[Osipov] First and foremost, Vladimir Shumeyko shared his thoughts on the alignment of political forces in the future Russian parliament. He noted that the state duma could become a constructive opposition to the government. In Shumeyko's view, the majority of about 70 percent of election blocs and political associations support the policy of the president and government on implementing economic reforms. Although the deputy prime minister is himself defending the interests of the Russia's Choice bloc, he is assisting the Association of Women's Organizations to reregister at the Ministry of Justice so that it can participate in the elections independently. Of the population of the Russian Federation 53 percent are women and this percentage should be maintained as far as possible in the future parliament. It would be better for the parliament to be a women's parliament, Vladimir Shumeyko noted. At the same time, the deputy prime minister said that he will not be standing for the state duma but will remain working in the government.

Shumeyko stressed that from the political and economic point of view it would be better to hold the elections to the state duma, the Federation Council, and local representative authorities on the same day, and also to hold a referendum on the constitution. When Shumeyko was asked whether the social guarantees are being maintained for former people's deputies of certain soviets, he noted:

[Begin Shumeyko recording] But of course. They remain citizens. Have you read the decree? It does not depend whether they have dissolved themselves or whether some other decision has been made. There is no intention to punish deputies, as many people are saying, or to carry out reprisals against them in some way. Not at all. This is the normal reorganization of representative bodies of state power. The state cannot exist without representative bodies. They have to exist, but not in the form of soviets. No one is against the soviets as people. The soviets as a form which unites legislative, controlling, and executive functions cannot be allowed to exist further. So the natural reorganization of these representative authorities is the result of the dissolution of the old soviets and their regeneration on a completely new basis. So, that is why I speak of elections to new representative authorities. [end recording]

Among the economic issues touched on during the meeting with journalists let me single out the deputy prime minister's remark to the effect that the president's decree on land reform will be discussed at today's government meeting. It envisions that plots of land can be purchased, sold, presented as a gift, and mortgaged. The Privatization-94 program is also expected to be approved very soon.

Commission's 'Scheme' for Duma Election Outlined

LD1310141793 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1111 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Yermakova]

[Text] Moscow, October 13 (TASS)—The Central Election Commission has endorsed a scheme of one-mandate constituencies for electing the State Duma of the Russian Federation, ITAR-TASS has learned from officials of the Central Election Commission. There will be 225 such constituencies, i.e., as many as there will be seats in the lower chamber of the Federal Assembly. The delegates will be elected according to the majority system, meaning that every constituency will be entitled to delegate one deputy to the future parliament.

Election constituencies have been "carved out", as lawyers say, on the entire territory of the Russian Federation. This was done by the Central Election Commission jointly with representatives from the subjects of the Federation, who came to Moscow with maps of their respective territories. In accordance with the election rules, "all the constituencies must have an equal number of electors plus or minus 15 per cent". The borders of districts, cities and urban districts will be observed.

Each constituency will have on the average about 500,000 electors. Hence, there will be only one constituency in some republics, such, for instance, as Adegeya, Buryatia, Karelia, and Saha (Yakutia), although some territories and regions will have several constituencies. For instance, there will be from four to seven constituencies in the Altay, Krasnodar and Stavropol territories, as well as in Volgograd, Irkutsk and Chelyabinsk regions.

Such a megapolis as Moscow will be entitled to nominate 15 deputies to the State Duma. Several election constituencies have been set up in the capital. The biggest one is in the central part of the city, numbering more than 498,000 electors.

Justice Ministry Draws Up List of Election Participants

LD1310134293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0918 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Yermakova]

[Text] Moscow, October 13 (TASS)—As many as 91 registered Russian public associations having the charters which envisage the possibility of participating in elections to the legislative bodies are on the list drawn up by the Russian Ministry of Justice at the request of the Central Electoral Commission. ITAR-TASS learned from the working group on interaction with public organisations at the Central Electoral Committee that such data are needed during the registration of lists of candidates from political parties and public organisations or their blocs for which half the number of seats in the State Duma are assigned.

In accordance with the provision on the elections the lists of candidates are advanced by electoral associations which may include federal parties and movements whose charters are registered by the Ministry of Justice or a bloc of associations formed for the time of the election. The charters should stipulate that they have the right to nominate candidates to legislative bodies.

The list drawn up by the Ministry of Justice includes parties, associations, foundations, movements, trade unions and creative workers unions of various kinds. They include the Democratic, Social Democratic, Republican, Peasants and Liberal Democratic Parties, the Democratic Choice Association of Supporters of Reforms and the Democratic Russia Movement.

The list includes the Free Trade Unions Confederation, the Unity Trade Unions of the Russian Federation and a number of industrial trade unions.

Also on the list are several womens' and youth organisations, a number of associations of entrepreneurs, leaseholders and industrialists, physycians and environmentalists organisations, the league of independent scientists, war veterans and veteran workers organisations, War Veterans for Peace Movement, the Foundation for Protection Against Unemployment, the Fund for Rehabilitation and Relief to Victims of Stalinism and forced labour victims. The list also includes organisations whose actions were suspended in connection with their involvement in the October events in Moscow. The question of their participation in elections will be decided in accordance with law.

It should be noted that the provision in the charter for the possibility of their participation in elections to the supreme legislative body does not mean their automatic participation in the election compaign. Each association decides this matter independently.

Parties, Associations Listed

LD1310190193 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2320 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow, 13 October, ITAR-TASS—The following is a list of all Russian public associations registered by the Russian Federation's Ministry of Justice with charters, which contain provisions for them to participate in elections to federal legislative bodies.

They are - the Russian Creative Union for Cultural Workers; the Democratic Party of Russia; the Social-Democratic Party of the Russian Federation; the Republican Party of the Russian Federation; The Peasants' Party of Russia; the Russian Penitentiary Association; the Russian Confederation of Free Trade Unions; the "Shchit" union for the social protection of servicemen, those liable for call-up and members of their families; the Trade Union for workers in the RSFSR Timber Industry; the Russian Association for Victims of Illegal Political Repressions; the Russian Christian Democratic Movement (party); the Russian Association of Female Entrepeneurs; the All-Russian Fund for the Social and Legal Protection and Rehabilitation of Invalids; the RSFSR trade union "Yedineniye"; the "Soldiers' Mothers" Movement; the "Fathers and Sons" Association; the All-Russian Society for Sobriety and Health; the RSFSR

Union of Entrepeneurs and Leaseholders; the Russian Scientific Fund; the Russian Federation Union of Architects; the Association of Russian Doctors; the Russian Association of Deaf Artists; the All-Russian Public Fund for Protection against Unemployment; the Russian Association of Vehicle-Users; the SOTsPROF Association of Russian Trade Unions; the Russian Trade Union for Television and Radio Broadcasting Workers; the Russian Christian-Democrat Party; the People's Party of Russia; the Constitutional Democratic Party (the Party of People's Freedom); the Russian Association of Sociologists: the "War Veterans for Peace" movement; the "Russian Press" Association; the Russian Bourgeois-Democratic Party; the All-Russian "Zori" Association for Links and Cooperation with Fellow Countrymen Overseas; the Russian Party for Democratic Changes; the Socialist Workers' Party: the Congress of Journalists; the Russian Party of Free Labour; the "Zagrada" Association for the Social Protection of Citizens; the Russian Christian-Democratic Union Party; the RSFSR Trade Union for Construction Workers and the Construction Materials Industry; the All-Russian Fund for Progress and the Defense of Human Rights and Charity; the All-Russian Fund for the Rehabilitation of and Aid to the Victims of Stalinism and members of the Workers' Army; the Russian League of Independent Scientists; the Association of Russian Flight Personnel; the "Iceberg" creative organization of defenders of the law; the All-Russian Organization of Veterans (Pensioners) of War, Labor, the Armed Forces and Law-enforcement bodies; the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs; the Russian Association of People's Deputies' Assistants; the RSFSR Federation of Cosmonautics; the Union of Public Ecological Funds; the Russian Social and Ecological Union; the Conservative Party; the party of Constitutional Democrats of the Russian Federation; the National Republican Party of Russia; the European Liberal Democratic Party; the "Wiedergeburt" ("Renaissance") society of Germans of the Russian Federation; the "Creation of Peoples in the Name of Life" movement; the Russian Cine and Video Engineering Society; The Fund for the Safe Development of Civilization; the Free Democratic Party of Russia; the "Russian All-National Union" sociopolitical novement; the Russian Party of Communists; the Russian Entrepreneurs and Co-operators League; the Economic Freedom Party; "Final Military Call-Up", the All-Russian Public Organization of Veterans of the Great Patriotic War; the Russian Movement for Democratic Reforms; the People's Patriotic Party of Russia; the Association of Russian Workers in the Law-enforcement Bodies; the "Young Republicans" League; the Association of Russian Industrialists and Entrepreneurs; the Russian Cosmonautics Association; the All-Russian Union for "Renewal" (a party); the "Union of Communists" Party; the Russian Union of Leaders of Territorial Bodies of Executive Power "Russian Governors"; the Party of Consolidation; the Russian Liberal Democratic Party; the "Assembly" public association; the Russian Social Democratic Centre; the "Freiheit" ("Liberty") society of Russian Germans; the Russian Agrarian Party; the "Cedar" Constructive Ideological Movement; the Russian Christian Democratic Union - New Democracy (a party); the Association of Supporters of the Reforms (a bloc) - "Democratic Choice"; The "Entrepreneurs for a new Russia" association; the "Women of Russia" political movement; the "Democratic Russia" movement; the Free Russia Youth Movement in Support of a People's Party; and the "Civic Union" political-economic association.

Parties Jockey While Drawing Up Election Tickets

MK1310093293 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 1

[Ivan Rodin report under the "Elections" rubric: "Pre-Election Realignment of Forces in Moscow. Government Members Ready To Join a New Parliament"]

[Text] Elections on party tickets is a novel phenomenon for contemporary Russia and therefore political parties and movements have given their attention primarily to this side of the election campaign. Within the next few days several conferences and congresses will be held which will define which blocs are being created and which parties will contest the elections independently.

There is no doubt that the most powerful election campaign will be launched by the "Russia's Choice" bloc whose founding conference will take place this weekend in Moscow. The names opening this bloc's ticket, to be written in the ballot papers distributed at the polling stations, are already known. These names are fairly prominent: Gaydar, Shumeyko, and Burbulis. These people, incidentally, are known as untiring propagandists (in word and deed) of the superiority of the executive branch over the representative branch in the period of radical economic reform, and therefore after their election (and in all likelihood, they will be elected) they will join the government, leaving their places in the State Duma to their associates who come next on the ticket.

According to some reports, Russia's Choice has so far not completed its pre-election bargaining with Democratic Russia whose main leaders, however, have already associated with it. Everything is to be decided at the founding conference, and this "everything" is, of course, above all the order of the Democratic Russia leaders' place on the bloc's party ticket—naturally, as close to the figure "one" as possible. It can be assumed that the claims of the long standing custodians of democracy will be reasonably satisfied and they will get their places right after the members of the government and the president's administration.

As for the formation of this bloc's party ticket, it is proceeding according to the regional principle. This is corroborated by telegrams sent out by the president's administration Directorate for Liaison with the Territories to his representatives at the local level—demanding that they submit their proposals on the makeup of the party ticket. In

all probability, this bloc will receive registration number one at the Central Electoral Committee.

Apparently the "August" bloc, created by the Economic Freedom Party, the Constitutional Democratic Party, and several other organizations, also has pretty good chances.

The Russian Democratic Reforms Movement through its spokesman Gavriil Popov has stated that it will contest the elections on its own and proposed that its ticket be headed by Anatoliy Sobchak.

It seems that the Russian Democratic Party, Sergey Shakhray's party, whose congress is planned for this weekend, and the Russian Agrarian Party (its second congress is set for 16 October) will be going it alone. The next "go it alone" party is the Russian Christian Democratic Party (overcoming the 5-percent barrier will apparently be problematic for it). By contrast, the chances of Konstantin Zatulin's Entrepreneurs for a New Russia and Aleksandr Vladislavlev's Renewal Union getting seats in the State Duma are fairly high.

In all likelihood, after the "hullabaloo of drawing up party tickets" has abated, the election associations will also turn their attention to territorial districts for elections both to the State Duma and the Federation Council. The number of districts objectively created in pro-presidential areas (Moscow—15, Moscow Oblast—10, St. Petersburg—eight, Sverdlovsk Oblast—seven, and so forth) will allow them to somewhat push back representatives of regional economic elites.

IZVESTIYA Profiles Parties, Election Blocs

PM1310141193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 93 First Edition p 4

[First installment of two-part POSTFACTUM report specially for IZVESTIYA: "Battle for the Electorate Has Begun. We Present the Parties and Election Blocs"]

[Text] According to data from the Ministry of Justice, 42 Federation-wide and interregional political parties were registered with the Russian Federation as of 12 October 1993. The activity of three of them—the Russian Communist Workers Party, the "Free Russia" People's Party, and the Russian Federation Communist Party—has been suspended following the tragic October events in Moscow. The other organizations whose activity has also been suspended are not parties but movements or social organizations. According to data from the Ministry of Justice, the 39 existing parties include a number of opposition parties, some of which are pro-communist.

Today we start our introduction to the parties and election blocs of a democratic and centrist orientation.

"Russia's Choice"

Organizers: Ye. Gaydar, P. Filippov, A. Yakovlev, and G. Burbulis. Established at the beginning of June 1993. The bloc expresses "the interests of those who in the referendum of 25 April supported President B.N. Yeltsin's reformist course." Since its foundation, it has stood for the adoption of a democratic Constitution and its implementation on the basis of parliamentary elections this fall.

The bloc includes the "Democratic Russia" movement (leader—L. Ponomarev); the Economic Freedom Party (leader—K. Borovoy); the All-Russia Association of Privatized and Private Enterprises (leaders—Ye. Gaydar, P. Filippov); the Association of Russian Peasant (Private) Farms and Agricultural Cooperatives [AKKOR] (leader—V. Bashmachnikov); the League of Cooperative Workers and Entrepreneurs (leader—V. Tikhonov); the "Living Ring" Union of Defenders of Free Russia and the "Radical Democrats" faction (leader—S. Yushenkov), the "Servicemen for Democracy" movement (leader—V. Smirnov); and also some other parties and social organizations. In addition, on an individual basis, the bloc includes V. Shumeyko, Ye. Gaydar, S. Filatov, A. Chubays, A. Kozyrev, M. Poltoranin, A. Marakov, B. Fedorov, M. Zakharov, A. Yakovlev, D. Likhachev, S. Kovalev, E. Pamfilova, G. Burbulis, G. Kasparov, and D. Volkogonov.

The bloc has regional branches in Penza, Yaroslavl, Saratov, Tula, Belgorod, Rostov-na-Donu, Ulyanovsk, Kursk, Omsk, Blagoveshchensk, Voronezh, St. Petersburg, Yekaterinburg, Khabarovsk, Kaluga, Chelyabinsk, Rostov, Moscow Oblast, the Komi Republic, and some other cities, oblasts, and Russian Federation constituent republics.

The bloc's sources of finance have not been revealed. Donors presumably include the Association of Privatized and Private Enterprises, AKKOR, and some other structures. Officially the bloc does not have any buildings of its own, but it unofficially controls ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA (since the beginning of October), ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI, and certain television programs.

Russian Movement for Democratic Reforms [RMDR]

The movement's constituent congress was held 15 February 1992 in Nizhniy Novgorod. The movement's leader is Gavriil Popov.

The RMDR is a sociopolitical movement that since its foundation has set itself the following tasks: fighting for the adoption of a new Constitution, organizing a Constituent Assembly, and correcting the economic reforms carried out by Ye. Gaydar's government.

At the end of last week the governing body [pravleniye] of the RMDR decided to take part in elections to the State Duma on an independent basis. At a news conference 9 October, G. Popov explained his decision by saying that although his party has reached mutual understanding with a number of democratic parties and social organizations during consultations (K. Borovoy's Economic Freedom Party, I. Kivelidi's Free Labor Party, A. Volskiy's unregistered Industrial Party, and the "Russia's Choice" electoral bloc), the potential partners do

not have a formulated election platform. During the election campaign, the RMDR intends to conclude a general agreement with democratic associations on election campaign tactics, particularly in regions where the parties have candidates running for office so that they do not have to compete against one another.

At the same news conference G. Popov unveiled the RMDR's election platform, the political part of which envisages Russia as a presidential republic with autonomous Federation components. The role of the federal parliament is confined purely to lawmaking functions. In the economic sphere, the RMDR demands an economic policy review in the field of industrial and taxation policy. In particular, it intends to reduce the amount of tax payable by commodity producers. It intends to carry out land reform by issuing land vouchers. In the foreign policy sphere the RMDR supports the establishment of a united European state within the CIS framework.

The RMDR electoral list is headed by Anatoliy Sobchak. Gavriil Popov has stated that he does not intend to run for parliamentary office himself. According to Popov, the RMDR intends to announce a special levy of funds for holding the election campaign.

The party has regional branches in St. Petersburg, Tatarstan, Nizhniy Novgorod, Bryansk, Yekaterinburg, Voronezh, Chelyabinsk, Kemerovo, Tver, Samara, Altay, and Kaluga.

"August"

On 6 October at an extraordinary congress of the Economic Freedom Party (leaders—K. Borovoy, I. Khakamada, V. Zolotarev, and L. Shpigel), an announcement was made that they intend to establish the "August" election bloc together with the RMDR and "New Russia" bloc. The Congress noted, however, that there would be problems in setting up this bloc. Indeed, three days later RMDR leader G. Popov stated that he was unwilling to join any bloc. On 7 October, the "New Russia" bloc announced the establishment of the "New Russia" electoral association on the basis of the parties joining the bloc. Thus the Economic Freedom Party remains outside the framework of both blocs at the present time. It may form a bloc at the elections with the Free Labor Party (leader—I. Kivelidi).

Economic Freedom Party. General secretary—Irina Khakamada, leader—Konstantin Borovoy. Published membership—approximately 10,000 people, with about 72 regional organizations, including branches in St. Petersburg, Rostov, Penza, Yakutsk, Novosibirsk, Khabarovsk, Voronezh, Tambov, Kaluga, Samara, Pskov, Tula, Lipetsk, Saratov, Vologda, North Ossetia, and Tatarstan.

The party supports the government's program of economic reforms, a free economy, and guarantees of the rights and freedoms of the individual enshrined in the Declaration of Human Rights, and stands for press freedom, large-scale privatization, and an end to free handouts of state property.

If it were to participate in the elections as an independent entity, the party leadership would hope to win 7 percent of the vote (published documents stipulate that in order to win any seats at least 5 percent of the vote is required). In I. Khakamada's opinion, the party has at least 80,000 supporters.

The party is financed from the income of its Cochairman K. Borovoy and contributions from commercial structures, primarily those registered on the Russian raw materials exchange. The party or its leaders fund several printed publications, including the newspaper SROCHNO V NOMER [Stop the Press].

Free Labor Party. Its leader is Ivan Kivelidi, chairman of the Enterprise Council under the Russian Government and organizer of the "VIP Club" for businessmen and entrepreneurs. The party was formerly the Cooperative Workers Party, founded in 1989. Its financial resources are estimated to be "extremely large." Membership stands at about 1,000. The party controls the weekly newspaper VEK [Age].

"New Russia" This was established 7 October 1993 on the basis of the "New Russia" parties' bloc, especially for the purpose of joint participation in the elections. The "New Russia" bloc includes eight political parties and sociopolitical associations of a democratic orientation: the Peasants' Party of Russia; the People's Party of Russia; the Russian Social Liberal Party; the Russian Christian Democratic Alliance; the Social Democratic Party of Russia; the Social Liberal Association; the "Young Russia Alliance" Party; and the "Assembly" Sociopolitical Association. In November 1992 the bloc's leaders proposed that all political forces in Russia should join a pact "On Preventing Civil War." The bloc's first conference in December 1992 came out in opposition to the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet.

The bloc's leaders are Telman Gdlyan (People's Party of Russia); Anatoliy Golov and Vladimir Boldyrev (Russian Social Liberal Party); Aleksandr Ogorodnikov (Russian Christian Democratic Alliance); Vladimir Filin (Russian Social Liberal Party); Leonid Gurevich and Vladimir Falko (Russian Federation Social Liberal Association), Vladimir Sadovnik (the "Assembly" Association); Yevgeniy Butov (Russian Bourgeois Democratic Party); and Dmitriy Glinskiy ("Young Russia Alliance"). The bloc's press organ is the newspaper NOVAYA ROSSIYA [New Russia].

The Peasants' Party of Russia (leader—Yuriy Chernichenko), which joined the "New Russia" bloc almost the moment it was formed, has decided to take part in the elections as part of the "Russia's Choice" bloc. At a recent news conference 8 October, Telman Gdlyan regarded this decision as a betrayal. On the same day the bloc leadership finally decided not to join an election coalition with K. Borovoy's Economic Freedom Party.

The Peasants' Party of Russia was established in September 1990. Its leader is Yuriy Chernichenko. Its membership, according to data provided by the party itself, stands at 14,000. The party has 45 regional organizations. The main slogan of the Peasants' Party of Russia is "Free Labor on Free Land." Its main task is to protect peasants' interests in the political, economic, and social spheres. It favors the elimination of the kolkhoz-sovkhoz monopoly and stands for a diversity of forms of land ownership with priority given to private property. It intends to try to prioritize economic policy as it applies to agricultural producers and to try to secure a fair distribution of funds between town and countryside.

Another candidate for exclusion from the "New Russia" election association is the **Social Democratic Party of Russia** [SDPR]. According to data provided by the party, its membership stands at 5,600 people. It has regional branches in 54 regions. The party comprises three basic political tendencies: the social democratic center (51 percent), the social liberal faction (20 percent), and the left-wing platform (12 percent). The party forms part of Democratic Russia, but stands in opposition to the the dominant grouping in this umbrella organization. Its official press organ is the newspaper SFERA [Sphere], which is published in Saratov. In Moscow it publishes the bulletin NOVOSTI SOTSIAL-DEMOKRATII [Social Democracy News].

The SDPR has wide-ranging international contacts. Its principal foreign partners are the German Social Democratic Party and also the ruling Spanish and Austrian Social Democratic Parties. The SDPR's leaders are Oleg Rumyantsev, Leonid Volkov, A. Golov, A. Utkin, and A. Averkiyev. Regarding the party's finances, Aleksey Averkiyev said: "We have one crazy businessman in our party who contributes 80 percent of his profits to us."

The party intends to go into the elections as part of the social democratic electoral association.

The People's Party of Russia (leader—T. Gdlyan) describes itself as a party of practical actions and common sense. Its published membership is 10,000. It has 44 regional organizations. The party stands for a strong executive branch. According to the party's own data, it is financed by royalties from the publication of books by members of the party's political council.

The Russian Christian Democratic Party (leader—Aleksandr Chuyev) may go into the elections as an independent entity. The party lists, in addition to its members, will include Cossacks and representatives of entrepreneurial structures.

POSTFACTUM reports that, since consultations between parties and blocs are continuing, the above information does not represent the final disposition of the pre-election jockeying for position.

More Profiles

PM1410105393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Oct 93 First Edition p 4

[Second installment of POSTFACTUM report: "The Battle for Voters Has Begun. We Introduce the Parties and Election Blocs"]

[Text] Today we continue introducing parties and election blocs of a democratic and centrist orientation. The beginning was in No. 195.

Civic Union

It was proclaimed 21 June 1992 and registered by the Ministry of Justice in January 1993. Civic Union includes the "Free Russia" People's Party (former leader A. Rutskoy), the Democratic Party of Russia (leader N. Travkin), the All-Russia "Renewal" Union (leader A. Vladislavlev), the former parliamentary faction "Smena-New Policy" (leader A. Golovin), the Russian Youth Union (V. Lashchevskiy), the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (leader A. Volskiy), the Social Democratic Center, and the Labor Party (B. Kagarlitskiy). The list composition of Civic Union is of the order of 170,000 people.

At present Civic Union is engaged more in internal altercations than in preparing for elections. The downfall of Aleksandr Rutskoy, leader of the "Free Russia" People's Party, has had a very strong demoralizing influence on it.

On 24 August this year the press service of the Democratic Party of Russia (leader Travkin) announced the party's withdrawal from Civic Union in connection with a sharp disagreement with Rutskoy's stand. The Democratic Party of Russia has decided to contest the elections independently.

The "Free Russia" People's Party is in ferment following the failure of Rutskoy's policy. Its press service reports that, following consultations with regional branches, the proposal for collective resignation advanced by certain members of the party's board was rejected. G. Vodolazov and P. Fedosov, who headed the opposition in this party, have left the board. To all appearances, the party will be unable to participate in the elections.

The "Free Russia" People's Party grew out of the "Communists for Democracy" movement organized by Rutskoy. After the August putsch "Communists for Democracy" left the CPSU and founded the Democratic Party of Communists of Russia. Vasiliy Lipitskiy was chairman of its Executive Committee, and Aleksandr Rutskoy its leader. It was registered by the Ministry of Justice in September 1991.

The "Free Russia" People's Party refused to answer a question about its funding, but according to available information the "Vozrozhdeniye" Fund and the "Russkiy Dom" Joint-Stock Company are sources.

"Smena-New Policy." It is not clear in what form the former parliamentary faction will be able to participate in the elections. Andrey Golovin, the faction's leader, has declared that the faction most likely will not participate in the elections, although its members have received a proposal to put forward their candidacies from Civic Union or the "Renewal" Union—which is practically the same thing today.

The "Renewal" Union—Volskiy's Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs-Industrial Party. They have not yet stated anything officially about the elections, although they will certainly participate. It is proposed that a congress of the "Renewal" Union will be held 14 October, at which the electoral list will be approved. It seems that these lists will also include candidates of Arkadiy Volskiy's Industrial Party, because the Industrial Party does not have time to register at the Ministry of Justice.

There is information about talks between Volskiy and K. Zatulin (the "Entrepreneurs for a New Russia" movement) on creating a joint bloc. It is proposed that the "Renewal" Union's list will include Volskiy, Vladislavlev, V. Mironenko, and A. Dolgolaptev.

Democratic Russia Movement

A mass sociopolitical organization of parties, organizations, and movements which have united voluntarily. It was formed in 1990. It supports Russian President B. Yeltsin and his policy of radical economic reforms and of creating a civil society in Russia.

The movement includes the Republican Party of Russia, the "Living Ring" union of defenders of the White House, the "Shchit" Russian union for the protection of servicemen and members of their families (proscribed by the Ministry of Justice after the October events in Moscow), the Russian Christian Democratic Party, the Party of Constitutional Democrats (Cadets), and others.

The cochairmen are Lev Ponomarev, Ilya Zaslavskiy, Galina Starovoytova, Gleb Yakunin, and Grigoriy Tomchin. There are regional organizations in practically all regions of Russia.

An interregional staff to prepare for elections was set up in May. The movement conducts its main election work within the framework of the "Russia's Choice" bloc, although Galina Starovoytova, the movement's cochairman, advocates a common list with the "New Russia" bloc. The Democratic Russia movement has an official sponsor—the "Fund for the Development of Democracy in Russia."

The Republican Party, which constitutes the moderate wing of Democratic Russia, believes that both branches were to blame for the conflict between the top organs of power, and it advocates simultaneous elections of parliament and the president. In addition, the Political Council of the Republican Party is opposed to "turning an assembly of regional bureaucrats into the upper chamber of parliament."

The cochairmen are Vladimir Lysenko, Igor Yakovenko, Vyacheslav Shostakovskiy, and Petr Filippov. Regional branches in St. Petersburg, Belgorod, Penza, Rostov, Krasnodar, Novosibirsk, Chuvashia, Voronezh, the Kuzbass, Saratov, Kaluga, Volgograd, Yekaterinburg, Khabarovsk, and Tomsk.

The party was founded in November 1990 on the basis of the former "Democratic Platform in the CPSU," which left the ranks of the CPSU at the 23d congress. The main tasks are to support Russia's sovereignty and to ensure social guarantees and political rights and freedoms for every citizen. It advocates privatization of state property by means of its free transfer to everyone in equal proportions. It demands glasnost in the government's work, control over the distribution and use of foreign credits, and state protection of private property. It was registered by the Ministry of Justice in April 1991.

The party is currently experiencing a split: Petr Filippov advocates its joining with the "Russia's Choice" election bloc, while the others incline toward the party's contesting the future elections independently. The intention to leave Democratic Russia has been stated.

Democratic Party of Russia

It was registered by the Ministry of Justice 14 March 1993. At the beginning of 1993 it had approximately 40,000 members. The leader is Nikolay Travkin, chairman of the board Valeriy Khomyakov, secretary of the board Yevgeniy Malkin, and ideology secretary Ilya Roytman.

The program aims of the Democratic Party of Russia are Russia's sovereignty, the development of market relations, the demonopolization and denationalization of the means of production, and the raising of the people's living standard. There are regional branches in practically all regions of Russia. The party supported Yeltsin's Edict No. 1400, although it said it was unconstitutional.

On 8 October Travkin declared at a news conference that the party would contest the elections with its own list, without joining any blocs. Travkin will head the list of candidates and hopes that it will also include S. Govorukhin and Nikolay Fedorov (former minister of justice). The Political Council of the Democratic Party of Russia has adopted a decision to allow Travkin to fill the first three places on the list of candidates at his own discretion, and then will come the names of members of the Political Council. An editorial commission has been set up to draw up the election platform of the Democratic Party of Russia.

According to V. Khomyakov's information, the party is allocating 1-2 billion rubles from the election campaign fund of the Democratic Party of Russia to finance the election campaign on the federal lists. The election campaign fund of the Democratic Party of Russia was registered at the Ministry of Justice 24 April, and its

chairman is Vladimir Leytland, president of the "Narkombank." The party has its own newspaper.

The "Entrepreneurs for a New Russia" movement (leader Konstantin Zatulin) will hold a congress 25 October, which will adopt a decision on participation in the elections and will form lists if the decision is positive. It is proposed that the movement will have had time to register with the Ministry of Justice by that time. There are grounds for believing that Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, who helped the movement to draw up its economic program, will decide to run for parliament on the lists of another bloc. Persons belonging to the "Entrepreneurs for a New Russia" movement have a packet of shares in the VKT Television Company.

The Free Democratic Party of Russia has not yet declared its election intentions. The party's cochairmen are Marina Salye and "ya Soshnikov.

The Free Democratic Party of Russia demands the convening of the All-Russia Constituent Assembly, "since power has virtually been seized by the nomenklatura underground, which is sabotaging and flouting the Declaration of Russia's Sovereignty." The party acknowledges the priority of private over state ownership and advocates the speediest market reforms.

POSTFACTUM points out that, since consultations are continuing among parties and blocs, these materials do not represent the final distribution of cards in the game of election patience.

Burbulis Outlines 'Values' of 'Russia's Choice'

LD1310225593 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2046 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Russia's Choice is an electoral bloc of the president and the reformist wing of the government advocating democratic change in Russia, Gennadiy Burbulis, president of the Strategy, Humanities, and political Studies Center, said at the founding conference of the bloc's Moscow branch.

In his words, three values dictate the politics of the bloc, the right of citizens to freely determine their own fate, the right to have property, or "material, intellectual and spiritual values brought to life by the creative energy of people whose labor is not harnessed" and "law which bans the authorities from using arbitrary means and protects the basic right of being free citizens of free Russia."

Burbulis said that the implementation of this concept would enable Russia to take "a place of honor among world powers and its citizens to be true masters of their own fate."

A. Pochinok, who chairs the commission taking over the assets of the Supreme Soviet of Russia, and Major General A. Baskayev, commander of the interior troops, will give a news conference on the handing over of assets and finding of jobs for former people's deputies. [Venue:] Conference Hall at 19, Novy Arbat; [Date]: 14:00 October 15. For accrediting contact 203-7789 before noon October 15.

Yeltsin Invited to 'Russia's Choice' Inaugural Congress

PM1310171993 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 1

[Unattributed report from "Focus of Attention" column]

[Text] The inaugural congress of the "Russia's choice" electoral bloc will be held in Moscow 16-17 October. The participants in the congress will include delegates from the regional branches of the bloc, representatives of the president's Administration, members of the government, administration heads, and the president's local representatives. Russian President Boris Yeltsin has been invited to the congress.

Businessmen Hold Congress, Prepare for Election

LD1310185093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1421 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Amyatina]

[Text] Moscow October 13 TASS—The extraordinary congress of the "Businessmen for a New Russia" association, which opened in the suburbs of Moscow today, will focus on organisation's election strategy and tactics.

Konstantin Zatulin, leader of the association, told a press conference before the opening of the congress that the Russian Ministry of Justice had reregistered this organisation on October 12. Now it figures as an all-Russia association with 53 regional branches. This gives it the right to register its own list of candidates to the Federal Assembly at the Central Election Commission.

Zatulin said that his organisation was still unable to "rally in one election bloc" such politicians as Sergey Shakhray, Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, and Arkadiy Volskiy, "due to their mutual rejection." He named the people already figuring on the list of candidates to the Federal Assembly from the "Businessmen for a New Russia" association. It includes not only businessmen, but also scientists and experts. The contenders include Vyacheslav Nikonov, counsellor of the international "Reform" foundation, Artur Chilingarov, Ruslan Khasbulatov's former adviser, Vadim Tumanov, famous gold prospector, and Konstantin Zatulin himself.

The association leader added that his organisation was currently conducting consultations with the Russian Union of Industrialists and Businessmen, with the Association of Russian Banks, with the Unity and Concord Party (known as "Shakhray's party"), with the Republican Party of Russia, and with the "Renovation Union" in order to knock together an election bloc.

'Russia's Women' To Nominate Candidates

LD1310190693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1556 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Ivanova]

[Text] Moscow October 13 TASS—The newly-born political movement "Russia's Women" has been registered with the Russian Ministry of Justice. It intends to act as an independent election association and nominate its own candidates for the forthcoming elections to a new parliament.

The movement was founded by three women's associations: the Union of Russia's Women, the Association of Women-Entrepreneurs, and the Union of Navy Women. Alevtina Fedulova, leader of the Union of Russia's Women, told ITAR-TASS that presently women's movement has no other chance to enter state power structures. According to her, the analysis of the current situation has revealed that the number of women included in party tickets is very limited and their names are usually placed at the very bottom, which actually reduces their chances to nothing.

Fedulova links hope for success at the upcoming elections with the mass character of women's movement. Recalling that women account for half of Russia's population, the union's leader said she expected men also to back the programme of the fledgling movement. The more so as this programme is to tackle safety, economic and tax policy issues. She fears the election campaign may be complicated by the fact that women are not perceived by the public conscience as politicians so far.

The list of candidates from "Russia's Women" will include well-known political analysts, scientists, entrepreneurs, lawyers, doctors and other women, not only from Moscow, but from other Russian regions as well.

LDPR Nominates 160 Candidates for Election

LD1310191793 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1500 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] The Central Electoral Commission registered the first list of candidates today. The Liberal Democratic Party of Russia [LDPR]—this is Zhirinovskiy's party—has nominated no less than 160 candidates. The Russian All-peoples Union [Rossiyskiy Obshchenarodnyy Soyuz] intends to submit its own list of candidates. Its leader, Sergey Baburin, cochairman of the opposition bloc Russian Unity—a faction of the former parliament, reported this in his interview to INTERFAX today. Their list will be formed at the organization's conference on 18 October.

Opposition Makes Plans for Election

MK1310094593 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 3

[Yevgeniy Yanayev report under the "Parties Before Elections" rubric: "Opposition Members Opt Against Boycotting Elections"]

[Text] To all appearances, opposition members cannot count on any serious success in the upcoming elections to the new legislature. This was confirmed by the list of a total of 91 political parties, movements, and public associations that are allowed to contest the December elections, which was made public by the Russian Justice Ministry yesterday. The list is clearly dominated by parties and movements of democratic and radical democratic orientation. Nonetheless, on that same day, Sergey Baburin, chairman of the Russian National Union, called on his supporters to take an active part in the upcoming elections.

First Deputy Justice Minister Vladimir Kuzmin said at a press conference that only 35 political parties and movements will have the right to set up election blocs. The remaining 56 public associations also entitled to take part in the elections will only be able to join blocs that may be formed. Mr. Kuzmin told journalists that at the federal level, the activity of only 10 parties was suspended and that "there were no more candidates for suspension," but made it clear that the list of outlawed organizations did not include parties and movements that were banned not by the Justice Ministry, but by its Moscow branch, and with respect to which the ban was enforced at the city level.

In fact, only a few opposition organizations were allowed to contest the elections. Most of them have a membership of several hundred people at best and clearly do not stand a chance of collecting the 100,000 signatures required to register their election lists. Nevertheless, at yesterday's press conference, Sergey Baburin, a leader of the patriotic statist opposition, called on all like-minded people to turn out for the December elections "despite their illegitimacy and farcical nature." As a matter of fact, Baburin's public appearance yesterday triggered a scandal once again. He was invited to hold a press conference at the International Press Center, but the law enforcement agencies decided that his very appearance in front of journalists would amount to a violation of the state of emergency regime. This is why his press conference was held on the stairs of the Slavyanskaya Hotel. Apart from his call for elections, Mr. Baburin read out the last decree adopted by the congress on 4 October.

All opposition members embraced Baburin's view on the elections. For instance, Aleksandr Prokhanov, editor in chief of DEN, said in a conversation with your KOMMERSANT-DAILY correspondent that opposition supporters should act legally, through parties and movements that were not banned. "If blood cannot flow through arteries, it passes through capillaries," noted Mr. Prokhanov in that respect. This view was shared by

prominent representatives of the opposition, such as Viktor Aksyuchits, chairman of the Russian Christian Democratic Movement's council [duma], and Gennadiy Zyuganov, leader of the Russian Federation Communist Party, who held their press conferences a few days earlier. Still, with the main opposition structures effectively crushed and the opposition press closed, opposition members have very slim chances to enter the new parliament, and it is unlikely that they will win more than 10 seats.

[Article includes the following boxed passage]

From the list of organizations registered by the Justice Ministry, whose charters allow them to take part in the elections to the federal legislature

The list includes a total of 91 organizations, including 35 political parties and movements, and 56 public organizations

Democratically-oriented organizations

Russian Democratic Reform Movement, Economic Freedom Party, Russian Social Democratic Party, Russian Republican Party, "Democratic Choice" Association of Reform Supporters, Russian People's Party, "Democratic Russia" Movement, People's Patriotic Party, Conservative Party, Party of Constitutional Democrats, Free Democratic Party, Russian Social Liberal Party, League of Cooperative Owners and Entrepreneurs, "Sotsprof" ["Social Trade Union"] Association of Russian Trade Unions, Russian Bourgeois Democratic Party, Russian Party of Democratic Transformations, Russian Free Labor Party, Russian Christian Democratic Union Party.

Centrist Organizations

"Entrepreneurs For a New Russia" Association, "Renewal" All- Russian Union, "Civic Union" Political-Economic Association, Russian Social Democratic Center, Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, Democratic Party of Russia, Consolidation Party, Agrarian Party.

Opposition Organizations

Russian Christian Democratic Movement, "Russian All-People's Union" Movement, "Union of Communists" Party, Russian Party of Communists, Russian Liberal Democratic Party, Socialist Workers' Party.

Media Issues

PRAVDA Finds 'Ultimatum' Terms 'Unacceptable'

PM1410104193 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 2

["Own Information" report: "On Pravda Street Without PRAVDA?"]

[Text] Yesterday the Ministry of Press and Mass Information telephoned the PRAVDA Editorial Office and informed it that before 1800 hours the newspaper's collective must:

1. Replace Chief Editor G. Seleznev.

2. Consent to the newspaper's reregistration.

3. Change the newspaper's name.

Otherwise the newspaper would be closed down finally the next morning (in other words today).

Yesterday we telephoned PRAVDA Chief Editor G. Seleznev. This is what he said: "We at once held a meeting of the labor collective. The terms of the ultimatum are unacceptable to us. We are trying to enter into negotiations with the Ministry of Press and Mass Information. The very arbitrariness has stirred us up. It is a voluntarist decision, and the initiative comes from presidential structures. There is no law in Russia today. There is no one to appeal to—neither the Constitutional Court nor the Supreme Soviet. Our people will remain in the editorial office tonight. The use of repressive measures against us is perfectly possible."

Exactly the same demands were also put to SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA yesterday.

The SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA Editorial Office was given two hours to examine those demands, and a threat was issued to close down the newspaper if they were rejected. At 1640 hours the editorial office received an order from the Ministry of Press and Mass Information to release V.V. Chikin from the post of chief editor.

After discussing this information at its meeting, the collective of the SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA Editorial Office declared that it regards what has happened as crude blackmail.

Kiselev's 'Itogi' Praised for Professionalism

MK1210151393 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 12 Oct 93 p 1

[Aleksandr Vladykin, Nataliya Osipova report: " 'Results' Determined by Second Capital. NTV Television Company Debuts"]

[Text] On Sunday [10 October], the NTV independent commercial television company made its debut on the St. Petersburg channel with the "Itogi" program. Yesterday, the first "Segodnya" daily news program came out. One of the new company's operational principles is giving journalists absolute freedom in selecting news priorities and compiling their programs. NTV Chief Editor Oleg Dobrodeyev told your KOMMERSANT-DAILY correspondent that the "Most" banking group kept the company's financing unchanged, although it reported losses of 1,700 million rubles during the October events in Moscow—its office is located in the Moscow City Hall building.

Yevgeniy Kiselev's "Itogi" program made a comeback after a three- week pause but this time not on a state television channel. The telecast definitely benefited from joining an independent company: the anchorman looked more self-assured than in his last appearances in Moscow, which were one way or another marked by tensions with his former chiefs. The program's leitmotif, albeit disguised by the journalists' outward impartiality, was the awareness of the mass media's power, which was so evident during these days against the backdrop of the authorities' confusion.

The independence of views and assessments was presented as something that should be taken for granted, and an apparent lack of bias worked to the telecast's advantage, distinguishing it from all political commentaries by the press during the past week. It can be presumed that if we happen to see a new opposition in the former one's stead, it will speak through Yevgeniy Kiselev, but it will do so, of course, in a more dignified and clever manner that the government's former opponents. At any rate, after Nevzorov's 10-minute program ["600 Seconds"], which disappeared from this very channel, "Itogi" came across as a professional and well-informed telecast.

Shumeyko Congratulates Broadcasters on Crisis Coverage

PM1210113393 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 9 Oct 93 p 3

[Olga Pokrovskaya report: "Vladimir Shumeyko: Your Reports Were A Moral Achievement"]

[Text] Quite recently staff at the All-Russia State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company [VGTRK] had been meeting with Ruslan Khasbulatov in the conference hall at Russian Television. The meeting was reported as being "quite friendly," but that very phrase was clearly ironical. Although the speaker had called for an end to "miasmas of antipathy," time has sorted everything out.

Less than a month has passed, and now it was V. Shumeyko, first vice premier of the Russian Government, who was the official guest of the VGTRK. It was the same hall, the same TV and radio company, but quite different people. Relaxed people. And the atmosphere was different too. People laughed in the hall and cracked jokes, but there was a lot of talk too about a sad matter—something that currently concerns everyone.

Following the well-known tragic events and the difficult, exhausting work of recent days, this was probably the first time that Svetlana Sorokina could indulge in a tired smile or Nikolay Svanidze could be less than serious.

Life is gradually getting back to normal, and the vice premier conveyed to the Russian Television staff the gratitude of all Russian citizens: "The way you provided the country with information under the incredibly difficult conditions of that terrible night will undoubtedly go down in history. It can already be said to have been a moral achievement."

At the end of the meeting V. Shumeyko presented the VGTRK collective with a symbolic gift—a clock of unique workmanship as a reminder of that difficult time which is thankfully over, and as a symbol of the beginning of a new era in the life of Russia and in the history of Russian Television.

For his part, VGTRK Chairman O. Poptsov expressed the hope that the government would really help and assist Russian Television in its work, and that some specific promises would be realized. He particularly noted that a decent wall would be needed to display the valuable gift...

Ostankino Chairman Defends Actions During Attack

PM1310160193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 93 First Edition p 8

[Interview with Ostankino Radio and TV Broadcasting Company Chairman Vyacheslav Bragin by Valeriy Vyzhutovich on 11 October; place not given: "Decision To Stop Broadcasting on Ostankino Channels on Evening of 3 October Was Made by Chernomyrdin"]

[Text] Ostankino fell after the assault. This happened back on 4 October, when it was discovered that it was not Makashov who, with a grenade launcher and a mob of pogromists, had in one fell swoop made broadcasting on the first, fourth, sixth, and Moscow channels impossible. The television company's screens were switched off on the orders of Vyacheslav Bragin, its chief. And Ostankino fell—in the eyes of Russia's and the whole world's television viewers.

In addition, how is it possible to resist a barrage of questions such as, for instance: Why, if the Automated Studio Complex-3 building went out of action, did not one of the reserve control rooms or studios function? Why did the dozen mobile television stations enabling direct transmission from the scene of events lie idle? Why was the evacuation of personnel—most of them women—carried out so haphazardly and unsafely, according to testimony of the television center's staff themselves?

Vyacheslav Bragin is trying to repel this second assault on Ostankino (or to be more precise, on its leadership) undertaken by public opinion, first and foremost by the Ostankino personnel themselves, whose professional honor and reputation are now being subjected to "softening up" fire. Trying as well as he can. By all available means. For instance, by writing a letter to President Yeltsin, in which Bragin "in connection with various conjectures" requests that "a special commission be formed to consider and assess" his, the television and

radio company chairman's, actions "at the time specified." As regards self-appraisal, the Ostankino chairman provided it in the interview published below.

[Vyzhutovich] What do you feel now?

[Bragin] Satisfaction. Great human satisfaction.

[Vyzhutovich] Why?

[Bragin] Because Russia has been saved, and we can once again look each other in the eye calmly.

[Vyzhutovich] Do you accept at least some of the accusations and claims being made by Ostankino staff, television viewers, and the press regarding your actions on the night of 3-4 October?

[Bragin] As far as I'm concerned it is, you know, like straw during threshing. The grain is left but the straw is scattered to the wind. Why was the television center left essentially unprotected? Who in the heat of the battle ordered the removal of certain subunits from us? Who left our militia unequipped and unarmed?

[Vyzhutovich] Do you have answers to these questions? Well all right, not answers but at least guesses, suppositions?

[Bragin] More like the latter. I would not wish to jump to conclusions but there are very many strange, suspicious, and maybe treacherous things concerning the way in which Ostankino was protected. When the bandit invasion began I immediately contacted the Ministries of Internal Affairs, Security, and Defense. I called all the numbers and tried to get through to Yerin, Golushko, and Grachev, but their aides fobbed me off with their deputies. In the end I got through only to Yerin. He said: "Don't panic, I am in control of the situation; backup will arrive soon."

[Vyzhutovich] Which other government members did you speak to that night?

[Bragin] I spoke to Chernomyrdin about 15-20 times. I spoke to Shumeyko approximately the same number of times. I also spoke to Filatov, Krasavchenko, Poltoranin... I telephoned all the government members. All of them just said: "Hold on, hold on...." When I had already lost all hope of backup I called Luzhkov and said: "Yuriy Mikhailovich, at least you will help me." Luzhkov soon called me back: "Slava, I have sent you 100 men." You must understand that all of them, as if by prior agreement, helped only in word.

[Vyzhutovich] Does that seem strange, suspicious, or treacherous to you?

[Bragin] Not only that. Eyewitnesses told me that militiamen gave the "green light" to trucks and buses that were rushing toward Ostankino. I naively called the Ministry of Internal Affairs: "Detain them, close the road, you have the State Automobile Inspectorate!" When Makashov demanded that we surrender the television center we could answer him only on a diplomatic level. I sent Ignatyev, my first deputy, to conduct talks, but Ignatyev did not meet with Makashov. Talks were conducted by the security chief. I was told that Makashov was demanding a television camera and a journalist. I instructed: "Give him everything he wants—journalists, a television camera... Play for time, film him until morning if need be, we still will not allow a single frame on the air." Incidentally, a militia station is located not far from Ostankino. Its chief, whose name I do not want to give, later told me that on the evening of 3 October he had received an order to move his subunit further away from the television center. Is that not strange? Is it not strange that the Airborne Troops Tula Division, promised to us as help, simply failed to arrive? I had the distinct feeling that everyone had abandoned us. I do not think that this happened by chance. Someone apparently wished to settle scores with Ostankino. I do not mean just Anpilov and Makashov here.

[Vyzhutovich] Who else?

[Bragin] I am afraid of discussing this subject. But I believe that some third force—let us call it that—had an interest in the storming of the television center.

[Vyzhutovich] Did you make the decision to stop broadcasting autonomously?

[Bragin] Let us make it clear. We did not switch off Channel One but merely switched it over to the All-Russia State Television and Radio Company systems. This is confirmed in the official statement by the Communications Ministry, which actually effected the technical transfer of airtime to the Russian Television and Radio Company. Thus, "Vesti" went out on Ostankino Channel One. Because we could not go on the air while under bombardment. We did not have a single studio available that was located in a safe area.

[Vyzhutovich] Many Ostankino staff, professionals, nevertheless testify that there were no technical obstacles to going on air from the reserve studios, but this possibility was not even discussed. Does this not mean that there were political obstacles? You are a seasoned apparatus man. It is therefore hard to believe that you did not coordinate the decision to switch off all Ostankino channels with anyone.

[Bragin] Chernomyrdin ordered me to stop broadcasting. As soon as I informed him that bandits were on the point of breaking into the broadcasting area the prime minister said: "Switch everything off!"

[Vyzhutovich] Does it not seem to you that someone very much did not want a video recording, especially a panorama, of the hostilities at the television center to be left?

[Bragin] I find it hard to suspect anyone. But I would like to completely deflect any suspicion from myself. There are already conjectures that I, quote, was waiting to see

who would win. Nothing of the kind. That night I gave interviews to Radio Liberty and Ekho Moskvy in which I clearly and bluntly stated my attitude toward the rebels and called them criminals and bandits.

[Vyzhutovich] You would have expressed this attitude more convincingly and, most important, more professionally had you ensured that Ostankino journalists went out on air. But you, many operators and television reporters are saying, prohibited them from using the equipment. Why?

[Bragin] Because I value their lives more than any television item. I do not have the right to send people to face bullets.

[Vyzhutovich] These people are journalists. Being at the scene of events—yes, sometimes facing bullets, regrettable as it is—is their professional duty.

[Bragin] And it is my duty—the duty of a leader—to prevent their deaths, which is what I tried to do on that terrible night. [Bragin ends]

Let the reader judge the extent to which Vyacheslav Bragin's attempt to "switch over" to another "channel" the public bewilderment regarding the Ostankino leadership's actions on the night of 3-4 October is convincing. It merely remains for me to add that this conversation took place 11 October. It was preceded by a telephone call to IZVESTIYA from the Ostankino press service: "Vyacheslav Ivanovich requests an interview."

The request was granted.

3-5 Oct Casualty Figures for Russian, Foreign Journalists

PM1310154193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 93 First Edition p 1

[Igor Gritsenko report: "How Many Casualties Among Journalists?"]

[Text] Fifty-five Russian and foreign journalists were casualties of the tragic events in Moscow 3-5 October.

Of these, six were killed, 11 wounded, and the rest beaten up. IZVESTIYA was informed of this by Oleg Panfilov, spokesman for a Russian-U.S. committee for the defense of journalists. According to Panfilov, of this number of journalists more than 60 percent were beaten up by officers of the law-enforcement organs—the militia and the OMON [special-purpose militia detachment].

Economic Issues

Soskovets on Shape of New Industrial Policy

PM1410100593 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 13 Oct 93 p i

[Article by Oleg Soskovets, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers: "Strategy and Tactics of Economic Policy"—from the PROMYSHLENNAYA GAZETA section]

[Text] Russia is currently going through a very tense period in its history. The situation in the national economy is complex, and the situation in the political sphere is equally complicated. Moreover, these processes interconnect and influence one another—not always positively.

Every enterprise has accumulated a large number of problems which reflect the ills of our national economy. The course of economic reform in the country will depend on the state of affairs at each individual enterprise.

In the current difficult conditions it is natural that people should want to understand the causes of the situation that has developed and find simple and easy ways out of the crisis. It is also understandable that they should want to find those responsible for the situation. The government feels obliged to say that there are no easy solutions. The depth and gravity of the crisis is due to the glut of problems that has accumulated over decades and the restrictions they impose, which are inhibiting the progress of the reforms and making the revival and remodeling of the Russian economy a long and difficult process, requiring a concerted effort by the whole of society.

In order to normalize the economic situation the government has spent the past few months taking vigorous steps to take control of the course of events in the economy and prevent the development of negative trends. But the situation in the economy remains quite complex. On the one hand, the prerequisites are emerging for gradually assuming a trajectory of economic growth; on the other hand, there is an equally obvious danger of the deepening and establishment of the crisis processes. In this connection it is extremely important for the government to select the right strategy and tactics. Viktor Chernomyrdin, addressing an enlarged session of the Council of Ministers 6 August, formulated the current task as follows:

"The government is opposed to any extreme, erratic behavior in the economy. We favor a policy of centrism, the only possible 'middle' line which is, at the same time, the only possible vector of the reforms. We will pursue this line firmly and consistently. Only then will we be able to get out of the crisis. Only then will we save the country from chaos and self-destruction. Only then will we be able to revive Russia."

That Russian Government session discussed one of the most important components of the state's economic and structural policy—its industrial policy.

There can only be one answer—"Yes"—to the question: "Should Russia, in the conditions of the transition to a market economy, have a state industrial policy; that is, a policy in the sphere of creating and encouraging the development of new technology and production?"

The country badly needs a coherent view of the economy that is consonant with the development of the world economy and ensures an increase in production volumes, a reduction in the consumption of energy and resources, preferential development of group B production facilities, access to world markets for manufacturing industry output, development of the production of products to take the place of imports, and the conversion of the defense sectors of industry.

I would point out that the problem of shaping a coherent industrial policy also faces a "market" country like the United States, in connection with its loss of world leadership in terms of labor productivity, living standards, and commodity competitiveness.

At present such advantages as the size of the country and the wealth of natural resources do not spell economic success. The volume of knowledge accumulated by society and the volume of scientific achievements and their transformation into modern technologies and products are becoming decisive. Japan is a striking example of this. Unless we take urgent steps to bridge the technological gap we face the prospect of becoming a raw materials appendage of the developed countries.

In this situation the state has an increasing role to play, since it wields powerful levers for influencing the economy. For instance, by modernizing the existing infrastructure it can fundamentally resolve the problem of labor productivity—the key indicator of production efficiency. Only by conducting a proper state policy can we expect to conquer new markets and develop and refine the structure of the internal market. The development of promising sectors can be stimulated by establishing differentiated taxes and redistributing budget appropriations in their favor.

We do not need a cumbersome bureaucratic apparatus to implement state policy in current conditions. In this connection we are pinning great hopes on the Russian Government's Industrial Policy Council. We intend to strengthen it with leading scientists, financial experts, and leaders of investment-oriented organizations.

Given the diversity of forms of ownership, the state will have to look to the most resourceful directors of enterprises and commercial organizations seeking new ideas, to the scientists generating these ideas, and provide them with a favorable climate for the implementation of speculative but lucrative projects.

Let us consider some priority areas of modern industrial policy.

First and foremost, there is the development of advanced technologies. This is particularly important for Russia in view of the need to conquer the foreign market, which we cannot gain access to without new types of products inasmuch as competition among goods and ideas is becoming more and more acute all the time. Genuine technological breakthroughs and the speediest introduction of inventions and discoveries—this is what can boost the economy.

One of the council's chief tasks is to analyze industrial development trends in order to identify priority areas and modern technologies. The council's recommendations in this sphere can be used to provide a more valid redistribution of budget funds when financing scientific research and planning and design, choosing rational ways of converting defense enterprises, and so on.

It is the job of the country's specialists and scientific community to identify priorities. This will ensure that democratic decisions are made. Incidentally, there is world experience of carrying out this kind of work. For instance, the Institute of Future Technology conducted a poll. More than 3,000 specialists in various spheres of knowledge answered 1,071 questions. The result was a report entitled "The Future of Science and Technology in Japan" (forecast through the year 2015). The aforementioned materials revealed the most promising spheres of industrial development and forecast the timeframe for the implementation of innovations. In this way the state obtained clear guidelines.

The government also must contribute to the dissemination of technical knowledge and new technologies in the country, while placing considerable emphasis on small enterprises. It is necessary to consider creating centers for the dissemination of new technologies in different regions of the country. For comparison's sake let me say that there are 185 of these centers in Japan and 27 in the United States. The government must give what help it can in forming these centers, but the bulk of the responsibility and cost will be borne by local organs. Moreover, the aforementioned centers could operate in conjunction with regional small business funds which would accumulate part of the funds obtained from the privatization of state property. Such a fund has now been set up under the auspices of the Russian Federal Property Fund. It is necessary to accelerate the creation of these funds in other regions as well.

It is also advisable to take advantage of world experience in this sphere, in particular the French state agency for the development of industrial innovation, which provides backing for industrial innovations by sharing the risk of innovative activities and providing consultation services and finance. The agency keeps in close contact with research centers in order to keep abreast of the latest scientific and technical achievements, and its

practical activities are associated with "innovation engineering," which means deploying all the resources, experience, and know-how necessary for a successful innovation. The agency has a network of 13 regional offices to make decisions at the regional level. The aforementioned agency is France's leading technological broker and is a highly effective consultant for the main research organizations, helping them pass on their research results to industry.

It is necessary also to examine the question of providing access to new technologies devised in other countries and to the European network of business consultants.

In this way the government will be constantly putting pressure on industry, in the best sense of the word, and will be pushing for higher standards by constantly raising the level of the tasks facing industry. Economic and credit and financial levers will bear the brunt in this application of pressure.

The accelerated transition to market relations has placed science in an extremely difficult position. Sectoral funds for the development of science and technology have been abolished, there has been a significant reduction in the amount of economic contract work with industrial enterprises, and science has become more dependent on state funding. Moreover, there has been a failure to single out the most viable and important elements of the scientific potential in line with the state's industrial policy. New organizational forms of science, such as small innovation firms, privatized scientific organizations, a system of grants, and the contract form of scientific relationship, are intended to increase the current return on the available scientific potential, but do not create a reproduction system for science, but the old system is crumbling. What is needed in this situation is a coordinated state policy in the sphere of applied research and industrial development, integrated in an overall state industrial policy and based on the fact that the Russian economy is the economy of a developed industrial power, capable of tackling the problems of retooling industry while borrowing as little as possible from abroad and effecting scientific and technical progress through its own research and development.

The activities of state management organs in the scientific and technical sphere must be focused on three main areas: preserving the scientific potential of industry and preventing the breakup of scientific collectives, reforming the institutional forms of scientific research and planning and design organization, and improving forms and methods of state management and the regulation of scientific and technical development.

In the sphere of reforming the organization of science on the basis of the most powerful scientific organizations we have started forming major national scientific and technical centers. They will be tasked with conducting basic and applied research and development. A government decree has been issued on the matter. I would like to note the need to further encourage the formation of "in-house" science within the framework of financial-industrial groups.

The process of reforming the economic mechanism that encourages innovative activity should involve transforming the banking system and also recording expenditure on the creation of products by including in it the expenditure on scientific research and planning and design. In the future, on completion of the stage of stabilization and the emergence of stable demand for scientific and technical developments, a preferential tax policy would be the main means of boosting scientific and technical progress. An important element in the mechanism of the distribution of state funds for scientific research and planning and design work is the system of independent expert appraisal of tenders and of the results of work.

When talking about advanced technology and modern equipment we must not forget about new management principles. Western experience shows that the most important changes in production consist not in the replacement of equipment but in the new approach to management which accompanies the transition to new technologies and equipment. Management is a special type of capital, the successful utilization of which requires training, planning, and reorganization in accordance with the provisions of the special section of management science known as "project management." I am sure that many people do not have a proper idea of this science and of its application, although it is becoming increasingly widespread in the West. Last year there was another international congress on the problem and in September there was an international symposium in Russia. There is a Project Management Association in Russia, and the council should involve it in its activities.

Questions of protectionism in trade are a delicate matter in market conditions. On the one hand, free trade keeps domestic producers on their toes and stimulates the constant renewal of production and products; while on the other hand the government cannot abandon Russian industrialists at a difficult moment. This must take the form of credits for the manufacturers of export output and the expansion of the network and improvement of the work efficiency of trade missions abroad.

In conclusion it must be said that all the talk about industrial policy and state financing of fundamentally new technologies will have no effect unless the directors of industrial enterprises and entrepreneurs are involved in this work, because they are capable of seeing new technologies through to industrial implementation, to "introduction," as we still say. What we need to do today is not "introduce" but to create conditions in which the creation and assimilation of new technologies and products would be a natural requirement, the object of manufacturers' interest.

As the economy emerges from crisis the investment climate will improve. In order to accelerate the process

of production renewal and also the growth of capital investments the government must introduce permanent tax concessions for funding research and industrial investment in order to ease the risk burden for manufacturers. Appropriations for the implementation of industrial policy will reap a rich benefit by ultimately ensuring an improvement in labor productivity and living standards.

Military Industry To Be Harnessed To Boost Countryside

PM1310082993 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1300 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Report by an unidentified correspondent during the "Business in Russia" program]

[Text] The comprehensive solution of questions connected with the development of the production and social sphere in remote country regions of 52 oblasts, krays, and autonomous republics in European Russia on the basis of nontraditional autonomous sources of energy—this is the aim of the far-reaching draft program known as "Selena." It was devised by the General Machine Building Design Bureau and was commissioned by the Main Administration of Space Rocket Equipment of the Russian Federation Committee for the Defense Sectors of Industry. The program is geared toward supplying equipment for the production, processing, and storage of agricultural produce and the conversion of vehicles and tractors to cheaper alternative gas fuel in rural regions of Russia which have main gas pipelines running across their territory; it also aims to create the corresponding infrastructure for the supply of liquefied natural gas to consumers. Losses in the agrarian complex this year due solely to shortcomings in the processing, transport, and storage of agricultural produce are estimated at 700-800 billion rubles expressed in prices for the fourth quarter of 1992. The specialists believe that by reducing losses, increasing yields, and carrying out processing within the framework of this program it will be possible to produce an extra 12-15 million tonnes of grain, 5-8 million tonnes of semi-finished potato products, and 100-120,000 tonnes of powdered and skimmed milk by the year 2000 as well as to lay on gas to 20 percent of apartments in the countryside and bring electricity to remote rural rayons on the basis of autonomous energy sources including non-traditional sources. This set of measures is aimed at reducing losses and achieving an annual total profit of 400-500 billion rubles.

Fedorov Comments on Credit Growth, Budget

PM1310135193 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 1

[Report by Irina Savvateyeva: "Government Cannot Get Rid of Those Anxious To Buy 10KG of Gold"]

[Text] At a press conference last Monday Finance Minister Boris Fedorov announced that according to the results of the third quarter the increase in credits (which is the main source of inflation) was successfully kept within 50 percent. In the opinion of the finance minister that is not bad at all, after all back in August a far more dramatic scenario for the development of events was being calculated: An increase of 80-90 percent in the credit mass.

Today, however, Fedorov believes, "as a result of the events which have taken place in the country a real chance has emerged" of accelerating the struggle against inflation. A "truly revolutionary" decision has been made to abolish preferential credit. An edict on the compulsory exchange of enterprises' deferred debts for promissory notes is on the president's desk.

The introduction of the promissory note system, in Fedorov's opinion, will primarily force payment from those who do not want to pay but can. And according to the finances minister's roughest calculations, they account for 30 percent of all debtors.

Under the conditions of inflation it is more advantageous for them to pay all kinds of default interest and fines than to settle accounts with their suppliers. When their debts are turned into a current debt liability they will be obliged to pay within the deadline indicated on the promissory note. Otherwise they will stand trial About one third of enterprises will be totally insolvent. Bankruptcy most likely awaits them. An insolvency agency is now being created.

Revolutionary changes face the budget. The repeal of all tax benefits should have a beneficial effect on it. Talks are under way with defaulting regions and there are some achievements here already. Provisional protocols have been signed with Bashkortostan and Tatarstan regulating mutual obligations for 1993. The question has not been resolved fundamentally but today the republics have already started to pay their taxes into the federal budget. Fedorov reported that "there is an edict on the president's desk about toughening sanctions against those components of the Federation which refuse to fulfill Russian tax legislation."

The problem of financing the budget is also being resolved through the issue of "gold certificates" to a sum equivalent to 100 tonnes of gold. The loan is being floated, and very successfully. In Russia many people have been found anxious to buy bonds whose nominal cost is equal to the cost of 10kg of gold. But applications are being floated only among banks. The government hopes to pay out in rubles in a year's time. But "if it proves necessary to sell all this gold we shall sell it. There is a directive from the president on the subject."

The majority of the population will have access to securities for a medium-term loan which is already "in the offing." The same interest will be paid on these securities as in the savings bank.

As of today Boris Fedorov considers the most explosive problem to be the creation of a single ruble zone. Obviously there are enough people in the top echelons who want to issue Russian rubles as soon as the parliaments ratify the interstate agreements which have already been signed. But the minister of finances categorically disagrees with this.

"Take Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Belarus. They are big countries. But there is essentially no privatization there, a fundamentally different monetary and credit policy is pursued there, and no currency market operates. In this situation the automatic merging of monetary systems could lead to the point where the ruble will be drastically devalued and the possibility of influencing its state will weaken."

Touching on the political situation in the country, Boris Fedorov expressed himself in favor of the speediest elections to the Federal Assembly. In his opinion elections of the parliament and president should be simultaneous:

"If elections are repeated every three months and cost 150-160 million, as the central electoral committee estimates, no budget will be adequate."

Governmental Commission To Promote Privatization

LD1310132593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0846 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow, October 13 (TASS)—A governmental commission has been formed by a resolution of the Russian Federation's Council of Ministers to promote the privatisation process in Russia.

The commission on the use of the funds of the programme of support for privatisation and restructuring in Russia is headed by Prime Minister Viktor Chernmyrdin and includes Vice-Premiers Anatoliy Chubays, Boris Fedorov, and Aleksandr Shokhin.

The purpose of the commission is to ensure the transfer of not less than 75 per cent of the support programme funds to enterprises that have completed the privatisation process and to regions which are most active in privatising state-run and municipally-owned enterprises.

The resolution also instructs the State Committee for the Management of State Property and the "Russian Privatisation Centre" Foundation to ensure the establishment of regional privatisation centres to render technical assistance to enterprises that have completed the privatisation process and to state-run and municipally-owned enpterrises being privatised.

Not less than ten such centres are to be set up before February 1, 1994, and not less than ten regional business funds are to be established before July 1, 1994, to make investments in enterprises that have completed the privatisation process.

Official Explains Central Bank Hard Currency Ban

LD1310182593 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 0530 GMT 13 Oct 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Deputy Prime Minister] Aleksandr Shokhin has backed the decision by the Central Bank on banning the use of foreign currency to pay for goods and services in Russia. At the same time, in his view this decision should not mean that hard currency is banned for use as savings, for example.

[Unidentified correspondent] The appearance of the latest Central Bank instruction was no surprise for the citizens of Russia. The government has long been arguing about whether tough measures should be used to remove hard currency cash from circulation or to give the ruble an opportunity to stabilize so that later, as some experts believe, it could itself push out foreign monetary units.

[Sergey Sukhinin, deputy head of the Foreign Currency Regulation directorate of the Foreign Transactions Department of the Central Bank of Russia] The Central Bank's stance on this is, in fact, a moderate and liberal one. We believe that the measures toward financial stabilization, toward stabilization of the currency market in the country should run parallel to those measures we are taking in the area of hard currency regulation. We believe that it was not possible to do this earlier, though formally speaking we had every basis for doing so, and business is aware of this. It was not possible earlier because the economy was not ready for this. I mean, on the one hand, the system for settlements in non-cash hard currency had not been sufficiently clearly worked out in the Russian Federation, and on the other hand, the internal currency market was insufficiently developed.

[Correspondent] All the same one cannot say that foreign currency has been finally repulsed in Russia. Starting from next year, enterprises will, as before, accept hard currency from the accounts of citizens, and that includes in such forms known throughout the world as credit cards, bank accounts, and travellers' cheques. All this will naturally lead to hard currency supply significantly exceeding demand.

[Sukhinin] Generally speaking, we are not restricting citizens from trying to save hard currency. What we are restricting is their opportunity to use hard currency in one way or another. But, as I have already stressed, this is, on the whole, in line with the standards of the Russian Federation's currency legislation and it corresponds to world practice. There is no civilized country in the world where foreign currency is used in parallel circulation with the national currency. And, all in all, we are not expecting from this measure any instant advantageous economic results, rather an overall stabilizing influence on money circulation.

[Announcer] Let us remind you that it was precisely because the domestic currency market was underdeveloped that the decision by the Gaydar government on halting the circulation of foreign currency on the territory of Russia from 1 July 1992 was not implemented.

[Sukhinin] The Central Bank of Russia's letter banning the circulation of hard currency cash from the New Year has not had any serious effect on the work of bureaux de change. Queues even form at times at certain places where the selling rate is comparatively low. The bulk of buyers own foreign passports. For them, hard currency is the only required means of payment abroad. Another section of the population, the more entrepreneurial citizens who have decided to wait for the next leap in the value of the dollar, have also become more active among buyers. As far as the instruction by the Central Bank of Russia is concerned, no mention at all is made in it about bureaux de change. Furthermore, after New Year, in order to buy goods in brand-name shops hard currency will, we now know, have to be changed into rubles and this means that there will be no decrease in the amount of work. On the contrary. So, the Central Bank of Russia promises that from 1 January, bureaux de change will be working normally.

Rise in Interest Rates on Term Deposits Clarified

PM1310081793 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 12 Oct 93 p 3

[Own information report: "Sberbank Explains"]

[Text] ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI No. 188 published a report that the Russian Bank for Labor Savings and Credit to the Population [Sberbank] had raised interest rates. In particular, rates for term deposits will rise to 120 percent. This has caused confusion among readers. After all, the article by Sberbank President Oleg Yashin (ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI No. 179) stated that the maximum rate payable on deposits as of 1 August would be 150 percent.

It was explained to us at the bank that as of 1 October interest rates will indeed be raised by 30 percent on average. For instance, the top rate payable on deposits for children (formerly 150 percent) will now be raised to 190 percent. Term deposits formerly earned 80 percent, or—depending on the size of the deposit and the length of the term—100-120 percent. The corresponding figures will now be 120 and 120-170 percent. Only the rate for call deposits will be unchanged. It stays at 40 percent.

MICEX Currency Forecast Warns of Hyperinflation

LD1410081593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0743 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow October 14 TASS—Specialists from the Moscow Interbank Currency Exchange (MICEX) drafted a forecast of the situation on the currency market for the final period of 1993. The document received by BUSINESS-TASS says that the Russian currency market will be influenced by the following two main trends.

On the one hand, the Finance Ministry will evidently experience growing pressure to meet obligations to various economic sectors in the form of delayed payments from past months.

If the ministry yields to this pressure, the influx of rouble funds to the economy will increase demand for hard currency and will bring down the rouble's rate even lower.

On the other hand, the rouble's downward trend will depend on the discount policy of the Russian Central Bank. The policy of raising the rate of refinancing may decrease demand for credits as well as the interest of commercial banks and their clients in playing on cutting the rouble's rate.

Exchange experts believe that the danger of sliding into hyperinflation still exists. This is corroborated by shrinking periods of concluded contracts and granted credits, the substantial acceleration in the growth of money supply recorded in August- September, a growing gap between financing and financial obligations of the budget, the high level of non-payments between enterprises, the spread of indexation in the economy, high rates of domestic price hikes, etc.

The forecast's authors believe that problems with liberalisation of foreign economic activities also influence the situation on the currency market and the dynamics of the rouble's rate.

Measures to repeal or ease the practice of quoting and licencing exports, planned for the end of 1993, can give a positive economic effect only if it is possible to stabilise the rouble's rate. Export will grow only in this case.

Specialists also note that there are many confusing points with "the rouble zone of a new type". The preliminary stage of its formation ended by the end of September.

Member countries agreed to vest with the Russian Central Bank the right to regulate credit and monetary emissions, the use of the rouble as the only tender as well as to maintain the rouble's single rate vis-a-vis the currencies of third countries on the basis of a joint fund of gold-currency reserves.

However, work should be done to set up a mechanism of making simultaneous currency interventions from the single gold-currency fund.

The imperfect nature of such a mechanism can bring about a situation when "unsupported" applications for currency at republican currency exchanges come to the Russian currency market in some way or other and upset the balance between demand and supply.

Gold Sale 'Civilized' Way To Cover Budget Deficit

PM1310084393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Oct 93 p 1

[Ivan Zhagel report: "Ten Kilograms of Gold in One Pair of Hands"]

[Text] The state is trying to overcome the budget deficit without stealing from the people. The Russian Ministry of Finance is launching a free sale of gold to individuals and legal entities of the Russian Federation. To be more precise, certificates will be circulated with a nominal value of 10 kg of gold of 0.9999 purity. The actual bullion will be stored in the State Depository of Valuables. It would be possible to dispatch it to Swiss banks, of course, but that would be far more expensive.

The Ministry of Finance has sold gold in the past. For instance, it sold it abroad when the currency reserves needed to be supplemented. Gold was also sold to the Central Bank. But the amount of gold in the country has not increased, and there is more paper money. And since this money is not being backed up by commodities, we have all become poorer. So there has long been a need to create a normal gold market which could draw free resources from the population and enterprises and give the budget additional financial resources.

As Bella Zlatkis, chief of administration at the Ministry of Finance, explained, the certificate will be sold for rubles and the price of one gram of gold will correspond to the price of one gram on the London exchange in U.S. dollars on the day the issue begins, converted at the Central Bank's rate. Quarterly income at very high rates will be paid on the certificate.

In the first two weeks after the flotation of the certificates they will be sold at their nominal value, calculated on the basis of the equivalent price of 10 kg of gold of 0.9999 purity on the London market as of the date of the start of the issue in Russian Federation rubles. In the future, however, the Ministry of Finance has the right to raise the price. Such a price increase will be inevitable on the secondary market, and the registration of the transfer of the securities will also be carried out by the Ministry of Finance.

The price of one certificate with a nominal value of 10 kg of gold is around R140 million today. Despite the price, investors are already displaying great interest in these securities.

The certificates will be sold via 45 authorized banks. But this number is not definitive—other candidacies are being examined.

What are the pluses of the venture? First of all, for the state, the plus is that the gold remains in the country. For the investors, on the other hand, the advantage lies in the virtual absence of a risk in investing capital in the face of high ruble inflation. Particularly since the income from the purchase of the certificates is one of the highest in the world.

As for the minuses, there is the fact that we still have a low degree of confidence in the state. However, the recently issued short-term three-month bonds are restoring this confidence, and it is no coincidence that they are enjoying fantastic demand. Which is helping the state in turn to close certain gaps in the budget.

If the certificates sell successfully, around R1 trillion will be collected. This means that we are approaching civilized forms of covering the budget deficit.

Former Leadership Blamed for Pension Fund Shortfall

PM1310091593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Tatyana Khudyakova report: "Pension Fund Did Not Have To Resort to OMON"]

[Text] Rumors have circulated in Moscow that, following the Pension Fund's transfer to government jurisdiction, the handover of affairs to the new leadership was made possible only after the building was stormed by OMON [Special-Purpose Militia Detachment] forces. Resistance was offered because of billions of rubles which had disappeared from accounts.

According to information from competent sources, the fund's former leadership never reported for duty after the president's well-known edict was issued. The transfer of business to the new team headed by Vasiliy Barchuk took place in a normal working situation—without an assault, shooting, or OMON members.

But it has come to light that the fund's financial position really is very grave—it holds just 8 billion rubles. It is too soon to draw conclusions about the fate of pension contributions—the Auditing Administration of the Ministry of Finance is conducting a check.

According to one working hypothesis, however, it could be a question of errors by the fund's previous leadership, which was gambling on the proposed indexation of the all-Russia wages fund. As is known, this was not carried out. Delays in payments through banking channels also affected fund receipts. As a result, the overall receipts of money into the fund's accounts turned out to be lower than the calculated receipts.

All measures are now being taken to ensure that pensioners do not suffer but receive the sums due to them on time.

We will speak about the results of the check and about the state of affairs in the Pension Fund as we receive information.

Bread Prices Deregulated; Famine Ruled Out

LD1310164993 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1200 GMT 13 Oct 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Excerpts] The day after tomorrow, 15 October, bread prices will be deregulated in Russia. Simultaneously—and not before—the presidential decree on bread allowances for citizens on low income will come into force. [passage omitted]

Leonid Cheshinskiy, the head of the Roskheboprodukt bread products company refuted rumors of famine: in his words, some 105 million tons of grain will be harvested. There is also some grain remaining from last year.

Many Crops Remain Unharvested; Payment Arrears Continue

PM1410103993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Yelena Yakovleva report: "Almost Half the Flax, Potatoes, and Beetroot in Russia Has Not Been Harvested"]

[Text] Russia nevertheless set a harvest record this year—not for the quantity of grain (the harvest is expected to be average—at last year's level of 105-107 million tonnes) but for the duration of the harvesting.

According to the statistics for last week, grain crops remained uncut on 14 percent of the sown area. And in the Central, Urals, West Siberian, East Siberian, and Far East regions the grain had not been harvested on one-fifth of the sown area. Sugar beet has been harvested on 42 percent of the area, flax on one-half, potatoes on 62 percent, and sunflowers on 12 percent.

The situation regarding feed procurement is also difficult: Less hay, silage, and feed root crops has been laid in this year than last.

It is a question not only of falling behind the schedule of past years, but also of agricultural producers not being ready to harvest, process, or transport output. Above all, there is no money to pay for fuel. The arrears of money due from the budget as of 5 October had reached 400 billion rubles [R], and peasants had not received R870 billion for grain sold to the state. Despite the fact that the volumes of harvesting work and the output produced in September increased, country dwellers did not receive appropriate material support.

The peasants' trading partners are also in a difficult situation, since they too are not being given credits to purchase potatoes and other vegetables.

In a letter to the president Vice Premier Aleksandr Zaveryukha expressed the hope that these questions will be examined by the government and that rural producers will receive financial support from the state.

We have repeatedly described and experienced the inflationary consequences of such decisions. But certain demands nevertheless require provisos and justification: for example, the state's debts for purchased grain. The grain is in the motherland's granaries, but the peasants have still not received the money.

Regional Issues

Regions Debate Yeltsin's Call for Dissolution of Soviets

Northern Soviets To Self-Dissolve

LD1310131893 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1200 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Soviets are ceasing to function in the north of the Russian Federation. Thus, the lesser okrug soviet of the Taymyr Autonomous Okrug passed a decision to self-dissolve. Simultaneously, the Dudinskiy [Dudinka] city soviet, as well as the Diksonskiy [Dikson], Yeneseyskiy [Yenesey], and Khatangskiy [Khatanga] rayon soviets ceased to function by order of the head of the Taymyr Okrug administration. The RIA agency reminds that the Norilsk city soviet adopted a similar decision a day earlier at their session.

Rostov Soviet To Stay; Tula Disbands

LD1410105393 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0800 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] A session of Rostov Oblast Soviet has decided not to dissolve itself and to keep its inner soviet but deputies cancelled their previous decision on the Russian president's decree on stage-by-stage constitutional reform.

At the same time more than 100 deputies of Tula Oblast Soviet declared they were divesting themselves of their deputies powers. Thus, the Soviet loses its quorum and cannot continue to work. The functions of a body of representative power has been temporarily invested in the administration and officials of the apparatus of the Oblast Soviet have been moved to the recently established Committee for Legislative Initiative, reports RUSINFORM Agency.

Rally Urges Mordovia Parliament Dissolution

LD1310230393 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2046 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] A mass rally in Saransk, capital of the Russian Federation Republic of Mordovia, demanded the immediate dissolution of the republic's parliament, chairman of the Coordinating Council for the Mordovian branch of the Democratic Russia movement, Boris Savelyev, told INTERFAX.

The Mordovian legislature earlier declared President Boris Yeltsin's decree of September 21 unconstitutional and having no force on the republic's territory.

The rally passed a resolution expressing approval of Yeltsin's steps to thwart a civil war in Russia and form a truly representative and efficient parliament, the Federal Assembly.

The rally also demanded returning Mordovian President Vasily Guslyannikov to office and vesting him with

supreme authority pending the convocation of a new parliament. The present parliament last April abolished the presidency in the republic and dismissed Guslyannikov.

Amur Head Assumes Control

LD1310165693 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1114 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] The administration of the Amur Region has assumed executive and administrative functions earlier performed by the regional council. The decision was taken by the administration's head Vladimir Polevanov because the council session had not canceled its previous decision on non-compliance with the presidential decree on stage-by-stage constitutional reform in the region. Polevanov ordered that all bodies of power and government strictly comply with the decree and the Russian government resolutions.

Kemerovo Soviet Ordered Disbanded

LD1410110493 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] A session held today of Kemerovo Oblast Soviet heard the instruction by Mikhail Kislyuk, head of local administration, to the effect that the powers of deputies are discontinued and that all functions of the soviet were being taken over by the administration. Interfax notes that less than half the deputies attended the session. Due to being inquorate, the oblast soviet was unable to resolve any issues.

Aman Tuleyev, chairman of Kemerovo Oblast Soviet, said the soviet had no intention of disbanding itself, but that it would obey the authorities' instructions. Tuleyev emphasized that he continued to regard all actions by the Russian president as unconstitutional.

Khakass Parliament Against Dissolution

LD1210215993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1832 GMT 12 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vassiliy Danilenko]

[Text] Abakan October 12 TASS—The parliament in the Republic of Khakassia (southern Siberia) will not dissolve itself at least till March 1994, its session decided on Tuesday [12 October] thus responding to President Yeltsin's call for the immediate reform of the local legislatures.

For the time being parliamentary commissions are engaged in drafting out features of the future legislative bodies in the republic. The draft is supposed to be ready by December.

The parliament also ruled to hold a referendum on December 12 which will decide whether to introduce the post of the president in the republic. The plebiscite will conicide with Russian parliamentary elections.

Smolensk Soviet Suspended

LD1410052393 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0230 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Anatoliy Gushchenkov, head of Smolensk Oblast administration, has issued a decision to suspend the powers of the oblast soviet of people's deputies pending the election of a new representative body. He took this step after deputies at the session of the oblast soviet failed to adopt a decision to disband themselves. Mikhail Semenov, chairman of the oblast soviet, stated in this connection that he will appeal to the procurator's office against the decision by the head of the oblast administration, who he believed was exceeding his authorities.

Murmansk Chief Bans Soviets

LD1110214193 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1937 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Murmansk Regional Administration Chief Yevgeniy Komarov has banned the regional soviets (councils) of people's deputies. His ruling, published on Monday [11 October], describes these governing bodies as impotent.

Komarov instructed all administrators to submit proposals on how to institute authorities so that they would replace the councils during an interim period until December 12. All executive functions, according to the instruction, are vested in the administrations of the region and of urban and rural areas.

Komarov reported in an interview with INTERFAX that the regional administration had decided to socially secure the former deputies, employ them immediately, and pay them a compensation from the regional budget in accordance with the labor legislation. In his words, there can be no talk of any additional benefits.

He also reported that the Central Bank's regional office had been told to stop funding all councils as of October 11.

For his part, Regional Council Chairman Yuriy Yevdokimov sent to the Regional Prosecutor General a protest, regarding the administration's decision to dissolve councils as illegal.

Novosibirsk Regional Soviet Backtracks on Yeltsin Decree

LD1310180393 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1327 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] The session of the Novosibirsk regional council Wednesday [13 October] canceled its previous decision of September 23 which described Yeltsin's decree No. 1400 as unconstitutional.

The session has not followed through on the proposal by 15 democratic deputies on voluntary disbandment. The chairman of the regional council Anatoliy Sychev said.

addressing the deputies, that now it would not be expedient to dissolve the regional council since it can still help the social and economic stabilization in the region.

The deputies will work until a new legislature is elected on December 12, simultaneously with the elections to the federal parliament.

Ivan Indinoka, the acting head of the regional administration, in an interview to local reporters, said that he is prepared to assume full responsibility for the solution of social and economic problems in the region.

Regions Discuss Reform of Local Bodies

LD1310174493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1345 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent; all quotation marks as received]

[Text] Moscow October 13 TASS—The discussion of problems linked with the reform of local representative bodies is continuing in all the regions and territories of the Russian Federation.

Khabarovsk: "An extraordinary session of the Khabarovsk Territorial Council has deemed "it expedient to reform the representatives bodies of state powers and to hold pre-term elections." The session has recommended the top state leadership of the Russian Federation to fix a single date for simultaneous elections to the representative bodies of power in the subjects of the Russian Federation and to the State Duma. It passed a decision backing the presidential decree on the phased constitutional reform and the subsequently adopted acts, and annulled its previous negative decision on this score. The proposal to self-dissolve the Territorial Council was turned down by a majority vote.

Kaliningrad: An extraordinary session of the Regional Council is to be held here, as demanded by Yuriy Matochkin, head of the Kaliningrad Regional Administration. During the session, Matochkin is expected to raise the question of the council's self-dissolution and to lodge a protest against its previous decision to suspend the presidential decree on a phased constitutional reform on the territory of the region. In spite of the support given by the region's population to the president of Russia, Council Chairman Yuriy Semyonov was among the first to sign an appeal to Boris Yeltsin, issued on behalf of several subjects of the Federation, which contained an imperative demand to cancel the decree. The head of the Kaliningrad Regional Administration believes that the backing given to the dissolved parliament by the regional leadership had to a certain extent contributed to the tragic events in Moscow.

Barnaul: All the local councils of people's deputies have ceased to exist here as of October 9. On decision of the city administration their property "will be transferred to the latter's balance. The city administration will discharge the functions of their successor at all the local enterprises, organisations, and funds."

Ivanovo: Since most of the local councils no longer exist here, Adolf Laptev, head of the regional administration, has signed an enactment transferring their functions to local executive bodies. The heads of urban and district administrations have been instructed to set up special employment commissions to provide jobs for dismissed council workers and to take over all the property and buildings that had belonged to the local councils.

Yaroslavl: The Yaroslavl Minor Regional Council was closed on Tuesday [12 October] by decision of the head of the regional administration. This is explained by the fact that the council's extraordinary session was unable to arrive at a correct assessment of the previous decisions passed by the minor councils of urban and rural districts which, having overstepped their powers, expressed a negative attitude to the actions of the Russian president. These decisions, adopted by the Minor Councils of Rostov, Tutayev, Pereslavl-Zaleskiy, and several other towns and districts, were annulled. A commission has been set up under the regional administration to provide jobs to employees of the dissolved councils.

Bashkortostan Parliament Reverses Anti-Yeltsin Decisions

LD1210150893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1433 GMT 12 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Raul Tukhvatullin]

[Text] Ufa October 12 TASS—The Supreme Soviet (parliament) of the Republic of Bashkortostan (southern Urals) named its own former anti-Yeltsin decision invalid. On September 23, local lawmakers suspended the presidential decree dissolving Russian parliament, on the territory of this republic within Russia.

The parliament decided to participate in the all-nation elections scheduled for December 11-12. The mps [deputies] instructed their leaders to draft out within one month laws reforming republican legislative structures and to set up a date for elections to local legislature.

According to Russian Finance Minister Boris Fedorov, Bashkortostan called back on Monday [11 October] its decision to freeze federal tax payments.

Republics Unhappy With Yeltsin's Edicts

MK1310144593 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 3

[Radik Batyrshin report under the "Federation" rubric: "The Yakut Parliament Has Dissolved Itself. Boris Yeltsin Appoints His Representatives to the Republics"]

[Excerpts] Yesterday, the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) gathered for its last session.

It adopted a decision to terminate the activity of the Supreme Soviet and the Soviets of People's Deputies at all levels in the republic. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, President Yeltsin also seems to be developing an offensive against the entire periphery. On 11 October he signed an edict on the creation of the Russian Federation president's permanent representation in Mordovia. It will be recalled that this republic became famous because of a conflict between President Vasiliy Guslyannikov and the Supreme Soviet of Mordovia. As a result, the post of the republic's president was abolished. At that time Boris Yeltsin took the side of Guslyannikov while the Supreme Soviet supported its local colleagues. A highly placed official in the Yeltsin administration explained the motives for the Russian Federation president's latest decision by the fact that in the republics where there is no president, the Councils of Ministers are fully controlled by the Supreme Soviets of the former autonomies. This, according to the presidential officer, destroys the unified vertical structure of the executive branch in Russia. Therefore, in the former autonomies that have no such post, permanent representations of the Russian Federation president will be instituted. Mordovia, in the opinion of the same source, was not chosen accidentally as the "restoration of the omnipotence of the soviets has occurred" there. Moreover, the Supreme Soviet of Mordovia failed to respond to Boris Yeltsin's telegram which recommended that the republic's parliament revise its decision invalidating edict No. 1400 on the republic's territory. As a highly placed representative in the president's administration reported, he was forced to tell Mordovian Supreme Soviet Chairman Nikolay Biryukov: "The president can dissolve not only the soviets of the krays and oblasts, but also the Supreme Soviets of certain republics."

In the former autonomies Boris Yeltsin's edict on elections to the Federation Council also continues to draw comment. Udmurt Supreme Soviet Chairman Valentin Tubylov considers the president's edict rational: "It is hardly effective to combine the powers of leader of a region and member of parliament."

President Mintimer Shaymiyev of Tatarstan told NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA that, with his edicts on the appointment of heads of kray and oblast administrations, Boris Yeltsin has blocked for himself the path toward forming the Federation Council with top officials from the regions. He is also worried by the fact that the edict violated the protocol to the Federation Treaty under which half the seats in one of the chambers of the future parliament is to belong to the republics and autonomous formations. "Yeltsin's latest edicts create the impression that the federal authorities have decided to act without consideration for the opinion of the krays, oblasts, and republics," Mintimer Shaymiyev said. Therefore he considers it desirable to resume the work of the Council of Heads of Republics in the near future "for consultations on the crucial problems confronting Russia." According to the Tatarstan president, "It is impossible to ignore the fact that the republics are the founding states of the Russian Federation." He reported that the Tatarstan leadership had made a decision on reforming the republic's representative bodies. After the approval of the appropriate bills, the republic's Supreme Soviet will call elections on a multiparty basis to the People's Assembly—the Tatarstan parliament. According to Shaymiyev, elections to the People's Assembly will be held no later than the first quarter of next year.

Bashkortostan Discusses 'Sovereignization'

PM1210135593 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 12 Oct 93 p 3

[Unattributed report under general headline: "24 Hours"]

[Text] A joint session of the Bashkir Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers has been held to discuss the prevailing sociopolitical situation in Russia. During the exchange of opinions it was stressed that "today, when the question of Russia's state system is taking center stage, Bashkortostan will work toward further sovereignization." It was said at the session that the republic must speed up adoption of its new constitution and elections of representative bodies.

Chelyabinsk Governor Takes Over Pending Election

PM1310152393 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 1

[Anatoliy Usoltsev report: "Chelyabinsk: Oblast Soviet Disbanded"]

[Text] The stormy October events in Moscow have died down. The country is preparing for elections to the Federal Assembly. But if you follow the logic of the decisions of the Chelyabinsk Oblast Soviet session and its inner soviet, then you could get the impression that the people of Chelyabinsk are in a state of virtual confrontation with the Russian president. In any case, so far the statements adopted by the area's representative organs to the effect that the president's edict on stage-by-stage constitutional reform is not subject to implementation on the oblast's territory have not been repealed. ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA has told its readers that the members of the inner soviet have not had the courage to admit their mistake.

Given that the oblast soviet virtually assisted the armed coup d'etat attempt and has still not repealed its previous decisions even now, in order to restore law and order on the oblast's territory Vadim Solovyev, head of the oblast administration, signed a decree 11 October suspending the activity of Chelyabinsk Oblast Soviet.

The decree speaks of support for proposals to hold elections to the new organ of representative power in the oblast simultaneously with elections to the State Duma. The head of administration has proposed to deputies in

the oblast's city and rayon soviets that the question of suspending the activity of the relevant soviets be examined by 17 October. Vadim Solovyev has assumed the executive-directive functions of the oblast soviet until the new organ of representative power in the oblast is elected and starts work. A commission has been set up to find jobs for deputies who had worked on a permanent basis and employees of the oblast soviet apparatus. Before 15 October they will be handed written notification of their dismissal.

Regions Gearing Up for Scheduled Local, Duma Elections

PM1310090793 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 12 Oct 93 p 1

[Unattributed roundup under "Provincial News" rubric: "First Candidates Named"]

[Text] Kirov—The first session of the Kirov Oblast Soviet and Oblast Administration working group on arranging the elections of deputies to the State Duma has taken place in Kirov. The Central Electoral Commission's recommendations were heard. Information on the procedure for forming electoral districts and on their activities were also discussed. The name of the first candidate, who may be included on the list of candidates of the Democratic Party of Russia at the forthcoming elections of deputies to the State Duma, was made public. He is Vladimir Shalayev, chief of the "Kirovenergo" northern networks service.

Tula—The democratically oriented parties and movements which are active in Tula and Tula Oblast have united into a single electoral bloc in order to put forward and get their democratically minded representatives elected to the federal organ of power. Nikolay Matveyev, leader of the regional nonparty movement "Civic Solidarity" [Grazhdanskaya Solidarnost], who has taken a seat on the bloc's board, stated that the oblast's democratic forces support the decree which the administration head has issued on suspending the work of the oblast's inner soviet.

Vorkuta—A regional center of the association of voters from the "Russia's Choice" bloc of reformist forces has been founded at a meeting of representatives of the democratic public and leaders of the workers movement and the Independent Union of Miners of Vorkuta. As member of the Vorkuta regional center action group, Vyacheslav Davydov, reported, the association intends to actively assist in the preparation and holding of the forthcoming elections to the State Duma, and see to it that deputies occupying "firm reformist positions" are elected to it.

Irkutsk—The process of nominating candidates to the State Duma has started in Irkutsk. Gennadiy Alekseyev, a former Russian Federation people's deputy for one of the local districts, was the first to announce his intention to campaign in the elections. A member of the "Nonparty Deputies" faction and deputy chairman of the dissolved Supreme Soviet's transportation, communications, information technology, and space commission, he is now working on the presidential administration's Legislative Proposals Committee.

The "Russia's Choice" bloc intends to put its candidates to the test before the electorate of such cities as Irkutsk, Angarsk, and Bratsk.

Voronezh—The leaders of the "Chernozemye" [Black Earth] Association have sent to Moscow an open letter addressed to the Russian Federation president, the government, the Central Electoral Commission, public movements and parties, and Russia's voters. The recommendations of the association, which embraces five oblasts of the Central-Chernozem Region as well as Orel Oblast, seek to pursue the goal of forming a new parliament on a professional basis, democratically and openly. They propose including in the Law on Elections or in an appendix to it norms defining the conditions and procedure for nominating candidate deputies.

More Regions Prepare for Elections

LD1310155093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1315 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Moscow, October 13 (TASS)—Preparation for elections to the Council of the Federation and the State Duma, the chambers of the Federal Assembly, the country's new parliament, begin in Russian regions. The elections are appointed for December 12.

Ivanovo. "Democratic Unity" election bloc was formed here on a decision of ten parties, movements and groups. Their representatives held a congress of democratic forces of the region. Until now democrats in the Ivanovo region lacked coordination, failed to find the common language. Now they have managed to reach agreement on matters of principle. "We pool the efforts for the sake of the construction of new Russia, free, democratic and strong and capable of ensuring political stability and law and order", the declaration says. "We view reforms as a dynamic, consistant and effective modernisation of economy, of the country's social and political life. We need a new constitution, a professional bicameral parliament, the autoritative institute of presidency".

Rostov-on-Don. Deputies of the Rostov City Council of People's Deputies, at an extraordinary session today, decided to participate in the preparation and holding of elections to the State Duma and local government bodies. A number of participants in the session proposed to consider the dissolution of the city council, but the proposal has not been accepted. It was suggested that the city council continues working "in accordance with the Russian president's decree and existing legislation and rotate members of the small council of the city council".

Gorno-Altaysk. Elections to the State Duma of Russia will be held in the territory of the Altay Republic on

December 11-12. The office for the election of deputies for Altay district number nine was formed under a decree of the republic's supreme council and government. Regarding the volume of its population, the republic could not hope to elect its deputy to the State Duma, but under a decision of the Russian Central Electoral Committee it has been given an opportunity to elect one deputy. Offices for the holding of elections to the State Duma were formed in all districts of the republic.

Ulan-Ude. At the extraordinary session of the Buryatian Supreme Council on Thursday the presidium of the parliament proposed to people's deputies to discuss preterm elections to state authorities. The draft resolution proposes to deem it necessary for all representative and legislative bodies to surrender its powers ahead of schedule after the holding of the elections to new republican representative bodies of every level not later than in April 1994. It is planned to work out and adopt appropriate legislative acts to prepare the elections. On the day of the elections to the State Duma of Russia it is planned to hold a republican referendum on the introduction of presidency in Buryatia.

Khabarovsk Adopts Election Decisions

OW1310144893 Khabarovsk Radio Khabarovsk Network in Russian 0930 GMT 13 Oct 93

[From the "Kray News" program]

[Text] The 12th session of the kray Soviet of People's Deputies convened today. It adopted two decisions, which we discuss here in their entirety.

The first decision concerns reform and early elections of kray representative power. The session of the kray soviet decided to view reform as expedient, in accordance with the Presidential Decree No. 1617 from October 9, 1993 on the reform of representative organs of power and of organs of local self-rule in the Russian Federation, and on the holding of early elections of kray representative organs of state authority. Second, it was decided to propose to the highest organs of Russian Federation state power to establish a single date for simultaneous elections of subjects of the Russian Federation for representative organs of power and for the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, with the new legislative and normative basis as the foundation. Third, it was decided to charge the smaller soviet with representing the kray Soviet of People's Deputies during discussions of issues connected to implementing the reform of representative organs of state power and of subjects of the Russian Federation. [sentence as heard]

The second decision was made after discussing Yeltsin's proposal No. 1043-3 from October 6, 1993, which cancels the decision of the eleventh extraordinary session of the Khabarovsk Kray Soviet of People's Deputies from September 29, 1993 on the political situation in the Russian Federation and on the creation of necessary conditions for preparations for and carrying out of elections to the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation. The twelfth extraordinary session of the Khabarovsk Kray Soviet decided:

1. To carry out Presidential Decree No. 1400 from September 25, 1993 on step by step constitutional reform in the Russian Federation and subsequent normative acts.

2. To omit Paragraph No. 4 from the decision of the 11th extraordinary session of the kray soviet, and satisfy a pronouncement by Head of Khabarovsk Kray Administration Viktor Ivanovich Ishayev, issued on September 29, 1993 and protesting Smaller Soviet Decision No. 174 from September 22, 1993 on the political situation in the Russian Federation.

3. To exclude Paragraph No. 2 of the Smaller Soviet Decision No. 174 from September 22, 1993 on the political situation in the Russian Federation.

4. To consider as void Paragraph No. 4 of the Smaller Soviet Decision No. 174 from September 22, 1993 on the political situation in Russia.

The decree by the head of the kray administration on the preparation for and carrying out of the election of deputies to the State Duma has already been signed. Therefore, administrations of towns and rayons are required within three days to authorize headquarters for conducting the elections. Election sites have to be set up by October 25, and the regional election commission must be formed by October 28, together with the necessary material and technical means. Updated lists of resident voters are to be completed by November 12. Kray headquarters overseen by Viktor Ivanovich Ishayev, head of Kray Administration, have been established for supervising and coordinating the activities of preparing for and carrying ut elections for the State Duma.

Sakhalin Council Orders Elections

LD1310165993 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1114 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] The Inner Council of the Sakhalin Region has canceled the decision adopted by the Sakhalin regional council which says that the presidential decree on the gradual constitutional reform is not subject to compliance in the region.

The Inner Council said this was done to prevent confrontation between the executive and legislative branches of power, reduce political tensions and reach social accord and civil peace.

The Inner Council recommended that the city councils actively prepare and hold elections to a new parliament. It also ordered that the elections to regional and local legislatures be scheduled for December 12 in the Sakhalin Region.

At present 5 city district councils and 88 village councils have been disbanded in the region, according to information received by INTERFAX.

Karelia To Hold Referendum, Elections

LD1210180993 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1424 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] At a press conference on Monday [11 October] evening in Petrozavodsk, Chairman of Karelia's Supreme Soviet Viktor Stepanov reaffirmed that elections to the federal power bodies are to be held on the republic's territory on December 12. Simultaneously a referendum on Karelia's state system will be conducted in the republic.

Stepanov reassured that while organizing the referendum Karelia's leadership "does not intend to disrupt elections to the federal bodies."

Speaking about the future professional parliament, he said he believed it would consist "of pragmatists represented by economists and lawyers and, in general, these will be prominent people, irrespective of their party belonging."

Stavropol Prepares for Election

PM1310091193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 12 Oct 93 p 1

[Lyudmila Beldyugina report: "Calls for Dissolution of Soviets"]

[Text] The end of the Moscow events has sharply galvanized political life in the Stavropol region. The past week has been full of meetings, seminars, "roundtables," and press conferences by sociopolitical movements, parties, blocs, and representatives of all branches of power.

As is well known, the kray soviet session unanimously condemned Yeltsin's Edict No. 1400, describing it as unconstitutional, and called on local organs of power not to enact the edict on kray territory.

An extraordinary 13th session of the kray soviet will be held Tuesday, 12 October at which deputies will submit a single issue—their attitude to their own previous decision.

"I very much doubt that Stavropol deputies will be courageous enough to make the decision to disband," Anatoliy Yelnikov, director of the kray administration's Social Problems Department and coordinator of the kray Committee for the Promotion of Reform and Support for the Russian Federation President, believes.

At a coordinating council conference last Saturday, local democrats appealed to Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin to disband soviets at all levels and to hold elections to local organs of representative authority no later than spring 1994. They believe that the Inner Soviet could be maintained for the period until the elections; it should focus on the preparations for and staging of the campaign. The coordinating council members also adopted an appeal to Russian Federation General Prosecutor Aleksey Kazannik. It speaks of the "antipresidential and antireform activity of Kray Prosecutor Vladimir Khomutinnikov." The democrats are calling for his removal.

Last Saturday, a constituent conference was held of the regional branch of the "Russia's Choice" all-Russia sociopolitical pre-election movement. It united kray organizations of the Democratic Party of Russia, the Republican Party, the People's Party of Free Russia [PPFR], the Christian-Democratic Party, the kray Association of Peasant and Private Farms, the kray Organization of Privatized and Private Enterprises, and a number of other sociopolitical movements.

Top of the list of candidates for the State Duma—on the basis of the ratings drawn up by the coalition—is the name of Vasiliy Krasulya, well-known in the Stavropol region as leader of the democratic movement and deputy head of the kray administration. The list also includes Vladimir Gevorkov, lawyer and PPFR cochairman; Sergey Popov, chief of the kray administration's Interethnic Relations Department; Yuriy Cherepanov, entrepreneur and lawyer; and local journalist Valentin Lezvin.

At the end of last week Yevgeniy Kuznetsov, whom local democrats had already had occasion to accuse of an initially passive reaction to events, held his first press conference following the events in Moscow. Yevgeniy Kuznetsov noted with satisfaction that the kray had "managed to maintain a normal working atmosphere without any excesses," and he roundly denounced the activity of the "People's Power" bloc which has been calling—albeit unsuccessfully—on the kray's population to engage in mass civil disobedience and has been threatening to stage a food blockade of Moscow.

The administration's most important task today, in Kuznetsov's opinion, is to prepare for and hold the State Duma elections. The administration head called on journalists to "create equal conditions and opportunities for the candidates who will be familiarizing the population with their election programs."

Chechnya To Boycott Elections

LD1310134593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1028 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Groznyy, 13 Oct—The Groznyy authorities reiterated today that "citizens of sovereign Chechniya will not participate in the elections to Russia's State Duma." This is confirmed in a statement issued by the Foreign Ministry of the Chechen Republic, which has been received by the ITAR-TASS office in Groznyy. The ministry describes reports that preparations are under way in Chechniya for the elections as untrue and says their purpose is to exacerbate the political situation in the republic and around it.

Chechen Rally in Support of Khasbulatov Dispersed

LD1410090493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0843 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sharip Asuev]

[Text] Grozny. October 14 TASS—The Sheykh Masur Square in downtown Grozny, the capital of the Chechen Republic, was sealed off with armour and police reinforcements this morning. This measure was taken following a ban imposed by local authorities on a rally which was in progress in the square for four days straight.

Protesters demanded that the Russian leadership release former Russian parliament Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov.

Explaining the prohibition of the rally, the Chechen authorities claim that the latest developments in Moscow is Russia's domestic affair and the reverberations of the Moscow events should not destabilise the situation in independent Chechnya.

This line of reasoning chagrined, above all, the faculty of Grozny State University which had nominated Khasbulatov for the Russian parliament in the past.

The situation is aggravated by contradictory actions by some Chechen law enforcement bodies as well as by armed groups which are subordinated evidently to nobody. Some, fulfilling orders, do not let protesters come to the square, while others, for instance the armed group of a certain Labazanov, threaten to use force against all rally opponents.

Incidentally, the rally was not authorised by authorities as law demands.

N. Caucasus Disarmament, Reconciliation Efforts Continue

PM1310145993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 93 First Edition p 7

[Nikolay Gritchin report: "In the Ossetian-Ingush Conflict Zone 100,000 Refugees Are Still Unable to Return to Their Homes"]

[Text] Vladikavkaz—On the eve of the anniversary of the bloody Ossetian-Ingush tragedy, the situation in the zone subject to the state of emergency on the territories of North Ossetia and Ingushetia remains highly complex.

The fates of over 300 people taken hostage from both sides are still unknown. In excess of 100,000 refugees in both republics are unable to return to their own homes. By far the greatest alarm is prompted by the position of 60,000 Ingush, a significant proportion of whom are taking shelter in camper vans on Ingush Republic territory. And even these are too few to accommodate all the homeless. There are exchanges of fire by night in the villages of Prigorodnyy Rayon. A week without human fatalities is deemed a quiet week here.

The protracted stalemate, threatening an escalation of extremist activities on the eve of winter, is forcing the interim administration to make ever greater efforts to overcome the consequences of the conflict. As V. Lozovoy, head of the interim administration, reported in a conversation with IZVESTIYA's correspondent, 8 billion rubles allocated by the Russian Government to construct homes and social-cultural facilities in the conflict zone were finally received in the third quarter. However, in Ingushetia these funds are being put to use slowly.

The situation is further complicated by the fact that there is a large quantity of weapons, including armored hardware, concentrated in the state-of-emergency zone. After falling into the hands of gunmen a year ago, it was legalized soon after by the authorities of both republics. A directorate for the protection of national economic facilities was set up in North Ossetia, and self-defense battalions were created in Ingushetia. Right now at every post in the republics, Russian troop formations serve shoulder to shoulder with national territorial subunits. They stand one against the other, paralyzing the Russian military's peacekeeping efforts. In these conditions, measures undertaken by the Russian Defense Ministry and Internal Affairs Ministry, which recently tasked the appropriate branches of both republics with confiscating armored hardware from the militarized groupings and reducing militia numbers to peacetime levels, are being met with understanding by many. Major General V. Ochirov, deputy chief of the provisional administration, reported that the program to demilitarize the zone should be carried out before the end of this month. This will open the way at last for peacekeeping forces to organize effective work to guarantee security.

V. Ochirov was cautious in his assessment of the prospects for the return of refugees in the near future to homes remaining intact in Prigorodnyy Rayon. Today around 500 such homes belonging both to Ingush and Ossetian citizens are standing empty. People are not going home out of fear for their own safety.

The mood of the people will decide an awful lot. Right now it is vital to instill in the people a readiness for reconciliation. And this is possible primarily via those who have an influence over minds and hearts. Interim Administration Head V. Lozovoy pins great hopes on, in particular, a peacekeeping mission by religious figures in which representatives of various communities in the North Caucasus have expressed a willingness to participate. Their authority could play a decisive role in the present situation,.

Shooting Reported in North Ossetia

LD1310164093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1149 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz October 13 TASS—The military council of the interim administration and the North Ossetian Security Council held a joint meeting in Vladikavkaz on Wednesday [13 October].

It discussed the situation in the state of emergency zone in the context of the latest events in the Russian Federation and Boris Yeltsin's decree extending the state of emergency in some North Ossetian districts by another two months. Special attention was given to ensuring security of civilians.

According to military sources, they registered overnight nine cases of firing on villages in the Prigorodnyy district as well as on surrounding villages. Firing emplacements were wiped out by Russian Interior Ministry troops. Patrols seized six firearms and several hundred rounds of ammunition over the past 24 hours.

Yeltsin Appoints Permanent Representative in Mordovia

PM1310140193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 1

["Edict of the Russian Federation President on the Russian Federation Presidential Mission in the Mordovian SSR" dated 11 October 1993 and signed by Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin]

[Text] With the aim of ensuring cooperation between the Russian Federation and Mordovian SSR supreme organs of executive power, a Russian Federation presidential mission is to be set up in the Mordovian SSR.

Valentin Vasilyevich Konakov is appointed the Russian Federation president's permanent representative in the Mordovian SSR.

[signed] Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin
Moscow, the Kremlin
[Dated] 11 October 1993
No. 1629

Dismisses Head of Belgorod

PM1310140993 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 1

["Edict of the Russian Federation President on the Head of Belgorod Oblast Administration" dated 11 October 1993 and signed by Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin]

[Text] In connection with the fact that Belgorod Oblast Administration Head V.I. Berestovoy has systematically failed to carry out the edicts of the Russian Federation president and Russian Federation Government decrees and, following a warning to the effect that he was not doing his job properly, has performed actions aimed at preventing implementation of the edict of the Russian Federation president dated 21 September 1993 No. 1400 "On Stage-by-Stage Constitutional Reform in the Russian Federation" and has placed obstacles in the way of Russian Federation citizens' exercise of the right to vote, guided by Article 8 of the RSFSR Law "On the RSFSR President," I decree that:

1. Viktor Ivanovich Berestovoy is dismissed from the post of head of Belgorod Oblast Administration.

2. Yevgeniy Stepanovich Savchenko is appointed acting head of Belgorod Oblast Administration.

[signed] Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin
Moscow, the Kremlin
[Dated] 11 October 1993
No. 1628

Yeltsin Aide Says Maritime Kray Leaders Corrupt

LD1410115293 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Valeriy Butov, the Russian president's representative in Maritime Kray, has accused the local administration of separatism and shady financial deals. He told journalists of the daily UTRO ROSSII he has proof of major financial offenses committed by a number of Maritime Kray's leaders to make personal profits.

Valeriy Butov thinks the kray's leadership provided the ideological inspiration behind the creation of the Maritime republic. It is his view that through this political act, Yevgeniy Nazdratenko, the administration head, and his team endeavored to blackmail the Russian Government, wrenching all manner of grants and subsidies.

Government To Subsidize Energy Costs

PM1310081993 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 12 Oct 93 p 1

[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA, ITAR-TASS column report: "Support for Maritime Kray Economy"]

[Text] Viktor Chernomyrdin has signed a Russian Government decree "On Urgent Measures To Provide the Maritime Kray Economy With State Support in 1993-1995."

In particular, the cost of one kilowatt-hour of electricity is to be set at no more than 40 rubles [R] for business entities in Maritime Kray as of 1 September 1993. In order to do this, Maritime Kray subsidies from the republic budget are to increase by R17 billion in 1993; prices of coal extracted in the kray are to be kept at the June 1993 level; and prices of coal brought into the kray are to be maintained at the June 1993 level, with no more than a 2.5-fold increase and compensation paid by the state budget through June 1994 to cover the disparity between prices and wage rates.

Leningrad Oblast Workers Declare Food Blockade

LD1310194493 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1530 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] The strike committee of the agricultural-industrial complex of Leningrad Oblast informed the St. Petersburg authorities of their intention to launch a food blockade of the city from 15 October. Within the first days of the blockade, supplies of basic foodstuffs could be reduced by 60-65 percent. The main reason for the blockade is arrears owed by the city to the agriculture workers which already exceed 10 billion rubles. The blockade will pursue purely economic aims.

In its commentary today, NEVSKOYE VREMYA notes that the most successful revolutionary outbursts in Russian history usually began in angry food lines.

Gorbachev 'Scandal' Used in Stavropol Governorship Bid

PM1310131793 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Report by Nikolay Gritchin: "Leader of the Group 'Laskovyy May' Tries To Become Governor of Stavropol"]

[Text] Stavropol Kray—Despite the president's decision on the appointment of heads of regional administrations, the preparation for future gubernatorial elections has begun in Stavropol Kray.

One pretender has already openly made his intentions known. He is the not-unknown Andrey Razin, leader of the group "Laskovyy May," who moved this summer from Moscow to his native Stavropol.

The idol of teenagers has set up a group of experts which, as well as political analysts and jurists, includes people having access to information, the budget, and the finances of the kray. They are working on the future governor's program. And although the final accents have not yet been placed in this program, the would-be master of Stavropol Kray already knows "how life should be lived in the kray."

The basis of the program is to give people the opportunity to work in production three days a week, and to spend the rest on their own 00.12 hectares—to build a house and grow vegetables. Education will be private; underutilized plants must be closed; and higher education establishments will be provided with strong commercial structures and will be able to invite specialists from abroad. All this is to be managed by the proprietary and imperious hand of the governor, who is to expand the chain of hire outlets for former kolkhozes and share out the land fairly.

Andrey Razin's "campaign for the governorship" began with a scandal. The purchase of the family home of former USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev in Privilnoye, where his mother still lives, and then the conclusion of a contract for the guardianship of the 82-year-old woman, earned Razin notoriety in the kray. Razin says that at the request of Gorbachev's younger brother—Aleksandr Sergeyevich—the latter was issued with liquor on credit with the house as collateral. When the sum reached decent proportions, they proposed settling the promissory notes. In buying the house, Razin agreed orally with Mariya Pantelevnaya that she could live there as long as she wants. Thus, the family problems of the ex-USSR president are being used as a trump card in a dishonorable and unscrupulous game.

Mikhail Gorbachev's recent visit to his native Privilnoye ended unpleasantly for the leader of "Laskovyy May": Mikhail Sergeyevich did not sit down at the negotiating table with the "guardian," as the latter had expected, and in general, spoke about him in unusually sharp terms. Razin's disappointment was so great that he is ready to evict Mariya Pantelevnaya from the house.

International Affairs

Kravchuk Approves Directives for Black Sea Fleet Talks

LD1310211193 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 2030 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Kiev [no dateline as received]—On 11 October, Ukraine's President Leonid Kravchuk signed an instruction on preparatory measures for the negotiations with the Russian Federation concerning the Black Sea Fleet. In compliance with it, by the beginning of the next stage of the talks, the ministries and departments in Ukraine have to prepare calculations of the real needs of the naval forces of Ukraine to ensure Ukraine's national interests on the Black Sea; an estimation of the real cost of the Black Sea Fleet property, in particular to prepare the methods of drawing up an inventory which is to fix the cost of the Black Sea Fleet property as it was on 10 September 1991 and 3 September 1993; proposals concerning the conditions of a possible lease by the fleet of relevant infrastructure facilities on the territory of Ukraine; an estimation of possible ecological consequences of the Russian Federation's Navy stay on the territory of Ukraine, etc. The president also approved the directives for the Ukrainian delegation at the talks.

Leftists' Role in Moscow Events Assessed

IZVESTIYA Report

PM1310162593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 93 First Edition p 8

[Report by Natalya Zinets of the UNIAN news agency: "Ukrainian Komsomol Members Outside Walls of Russian Parliament"]

[Text] According to a report by the INTERFAX news agency, a "Komsomolets Ukrainy" detachment participated in the defense of the White House. This is the name given to their group by the guys of the Kharkov Brotherhood of Candidates for Real People and the Kiev Oblast Committee of the All-Union Youth Guard of Bolsheviks and the Lenin Komsomol [Communist Youth League] of Ukraine.

I was told at the Ministry of Justice that the Lenin Komsomol does not yet feature among the officially registered youth organizations with republic status. Even Ukrainian Supreme Council Deputy Aleksandr Kotsyuba, member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Ukraine, which was registered 5 October, declared that Ukrainian communists have nothing to do either with the teenagers who ended up outside the walls of the White House or with any youth organizations.

Olga Vasilenko, secretary of the Kharkov Oblast Youth League, explained that attempts are now being made in Kharkov to revive the Komsomol—only not under the Communist Party but under the Socialist Party. One of the initiators of this movement is Yuriy Davydov, leader of the Kharkov Brotherhood of Candidates for Real People, who is already over 30.

During the eighties Vadim Yarmak from Kharkov was a member of this organization, which, according to him, more resembles a sect. He said that the Brotherhood had developed a strained relationship with the Komsomol at the time. Komsomol functionaries stigmatized Davydov for hampering the ideological education of teenagers and diverting them from real life by stupefying their brains with his "Theory of Happiness." This consists of six parts, is full of vague inferences which are incomprehensible to an ordinary person, and is set in verse form. Every member of the brotherhood had, above all, to write out this weighty poetic work at least five times, so as to be better aware of its value. In addition to grasping the theory, the organization's members make frequent short marches and trips, learn to survive under extreme conditions, participate in congresses of Esperantists...and frankly despise all who do not strive to be candidates for real people.

Yuriy Davydov recently announced a change in his world outlook and his adherence to the ideals of Marx and Lenin. The way the "Davydovites" spend their time in the streets has now acquired a political hue—they do not miss a single rally or other measure organized by Kharkov "left-wingers," such as former USSR People's Deputy Leonid Sukhov, one of the leaders of "Trudovaya Kharkovshchina." After participating in the Congress of Peoples of the USSR, the "people's deputy" addressed his fellow countrymen shortly before the Moscow bloodshed and set about organizing a group to travel to Moscow for an assembly. On 20 September seven Brotherhood members headed by Yuriy Davydov set out for there, only not for an assembly but for a Komsomol congress.

On 26 September, after the congress ended, the guys joined a column and marched toward the White House, outside whose walls they erected a tent and enlisted in the fifth battalion. According to Davydov, the brotherhood's members react keenly to any injustice and were unable to resign themselves to Boris Yeltsin's anticonstitutional edict dissolving the Supreme Soviet and the Congress of Russian Federation People's Deputies. At first they were entrusted with standing in the outer cordon and carrying out agitation work among special-purpose militia detachment personnel. Then Yuriy Davydov, who has good army experience, was appointed an instructor in defense against chemical weapons. He provided training and put gas masks in order. The guys delivered water to the underground bunker of the regiment's staff and tea to the positions. They also conducted engineer reconnaissance and participated in the capture of the nearest telephone exchange.

At the time of the assault by government troops our heroes were inside the White House and sang Komsomol songs to keep up the spirits of the people's deputies. They were among the last to leave the building, so Yuriy Davydov asseverated, under escort. They were able to

flee, however, and to get to Kaluga, to fellow comrades. From there they returned home, again by way of Moscow.

Ten members of the Kiev Oblast Committee of the All-Union Youth Guard of Bolsheviks, the youth branch of Nina Andreyeva's All-Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks, also made their way back to Ukraine from the Moscow barricades independently of the "Davydovites," also without losses.

I managed to meet with one of the leaders of the Kiev Bolsheviks. He refused to introduce himself but readily shared his own view of the situation which has taken shape. According to him, the restoration of the Soviet Union is inevitable. Up until the Moscow events it could have been carried out by peaceful means. Supporters of socialism would have found themselves in power as the result of elections in the former Soviet republics. The states would have united economically. Friendly Russian troops would have entered Ukraine. Not only the economic union but also the political union would have been revived. But the situation has changed now. After what happened in Moscow the revival of the Russian Empire is possible, but not that of the proletarian state.

Instances of the participation of Ukrainian citizens in armed conflicts on the territory of other states are not isolated. But at present the law is keeping quiet on how to qualify them.

Commentary in Kiev Paper

WS1310135293 Kiev UNIAN OHLYADY, KOMENTARI, PROHNOZY in Ukrainian No 19 11 Oct 93

[Commentary by Nataliya Zinets: "The President Has Seen Through the Right Eye, But What About the Left One?"]

[Text] "All paramilitary units that are not provided for by the Constitution and the law must be prohibited, since in an extreme situation they could be used by political forces against the people"—stated President Kravchuk in an interview with Ukrainian television on 4 October. In accordance with his resolution, the Office of General Attorney has submitted to the Supreme Council an amendment to the Ukrainian Criminal Law on liability for mercenaries and organizing paramilitary units. Leonid Kravchuk explained that he came to such a conclusion after a sleepless night, when he had been following the events in Moscow. The president restrained himself from making any analogies, however it was clear that he kept in mind the Ukrainian National Self Defense [UNSO], the Ukrainian Officers' Association and other nationalist-patriotic organizations that some citizens connect with the revival of Ukrainian statehood. It is no secret that many such organizations enjoy not only the sympathy but also open support of certain people's deputies. Simultaneously, they are a permanent pretext for advocates of the old "Soviet way of life" idea. This very statement has hinted to the latter that the president is willing to cooperate with them.

Is it true that only the UNSO and other patriotic paramilitary organizations could be used by certain political forces against the people? At the same time when the president was warning against the nationalist threat, Ukrainian leftists were defending Soviet authorities and Russian people's deputies on barricades in Moscow. There were members of the All-Union Youth Guard of Bolsheviks from Kiev, a detachment of the Ukrainian Komsomolets from Kharkiv, i.e. representatives of the Fraternity of Candidates for Real People, headed by Yuriy Davydov. It is interesting that three or four years ago the "candidates for real people" despised the Komsomol, and the Komsomol despised them. Now, they work to revive the Komsomol, cooperate with the Kharkiv socialists, and take part in meetings not only in Kharkiv, but in Moscow as well. Answering an appeal by Leonid Sukhov—former people's deputy of the USSR and now one of the leaders of the Labor Kharkiv, who participated in the Congress of USSR Nations —on the eve of the Moscow events, they went to Moscow's White House and were given weapons.

This is not the only case of Ukrainian citizens engaging in military conflicts. What about the Cis-Dnestr region, Georgia, Yugoslavia...? What are we waiting for? Are we waiting until those boys gain some experience abroad and decide to restore order here in Ukraine?

Support From Crimean Russians

WS1410093693 Kiev RADA in Ukrainian 7 Oct 93 p 1

[Unattributed report under the "News, Facts" rubric: "Everyone Supported Rutskoy"]

[Text] According to Mykola Semena, a staff member of the Ukrainian newspaper KRYMSKA SVITLYTSYA, chauvinistic Russian organizations in the Crimea openly supported the putchists in Moscow. Mykola Semena is convinced that any further forbearance of Ukrainian authorities in dealing with the Russian chauvinists will lead to tragic consequences.

For example, the Sevastopol Front for National Salvation, headed by Oleksandr Kruhlov, called on the Black Sea Fleet command to support Rutskoy and Khasbulatov. The front did not confine itself to this and sent 11 troopers to Moscow. The Russian-Speaking Movement of Crimea and the Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Crimea also supported Khasbulatov and Rutskoy. Speaking at a press conference held on the eve of the bloody events in Moscow, Leonid Grach, first secretary of the Communist Party of Crimea, stated that all Crimean communists supported the legitimate president of Russia...Rutskoy. KRYMSKA GAZETA, an official paper of the Crimean Cabinet of Ministers, published several letters from readers supporting the putchists.

Kravchuk Promises Aid for Georgia; Military Exports Viewed

AU1410091593 Kiev MOLOD UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 12 Oct 93 p 1

[Volodymyr Oliynyk report: "The President and the Chief Designer Have Found a Common Language"]

[Text] **As we have already reported, the "Ukraine-93" interbranch exhibition of manufactured consumer goods was held between 4 and 8 October at Ukraine's National Exhibition Center (formerly the location of the Exhibition of the Achievements of the National Economy).**

Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk visited on 8 October. He familiarized himself with the exhibits and answered a few questions from journalists.

As predicted by the journalists who had arrived at the exhibition somewhat earlier, the Ukrainian president showed particular interest in the display of the Antonov Aviation Scientific and Technological Complex [ANTK]. ANTK's chief designer, Dmytro Kiva, told Kravchuk about innovations by Ukrainian aircraft designers and aircraft manufacturers and emphasized that Ukraine will, in the very near future, become a major aircraft exporter.

At my request, Dmytro Kiva spoke in greater detail about the export possibilities of Ukrainian aircraft manufacturers.

"For example, the AN-74 aircraft, in various modifications, is already being used in several Latin American countries," said Kiva. "It is also in demand in other countries. We are negotiating with China and Iran....

"In France and in Spain, there is great interest in the AN-32 firefighting aircraft.

"The latest military transport aircraft, the AN-77, interests all the European countries. We have already been conducting official negotiations for a year and will soon start the joint manufacture of it and will be exporting it."

In addition, according to Kiva, Ukraine has splendid prospects for entering the market of military transport aviation. The AN-70T, an ANTK innovation, which is considered to be the world's best military transport aircraft of its class, is sought after not only by CIS countries (to replace the AN-12), but also by all the European countries.

Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk remarked that Ukrainian enterprises are trying to manufacture products at a qualitatively higher level, but they do not always succeed in this, although there have been technological breakthroughs in some industries.

Answering a question from a MOLOD UKRAYINY correspondent as to whether Ukraine will be assisting Georgia, Kravchuk said that assistance, which is already being provided, will be political as well as military. As is known, Ukrainian military helicopters are evacuating refugees from Abkhazia. Kravchuk stressed that Ukraine, as a permanent member of the United Nations, will take all political measures to end the civil war in Georgia and to help the Georgian people.

Georgian Official Thanks Kravchuk for Assistance

WS1410114193 Kiev KYYIVSKA PRAVDA in Ukrainian 8 Oct 93 p 1

[Report by V. Tymoshenko under the "Ukraine and the World" rubric: "Georgia Is Grateful."]

[Text] President Leonid Kravchuk has received a letter from Jaba Ioseliani, head of the Interim and Extraordinary Committee of the Georgian Republic. The letter expresses thanks for activities carried out by Ukrainian National Self-Defense [UNSO] military units operating on Georgian territory. "The courage, devotion, military skills, and discipline of UNSO soldiers have commanded respect throughout Georgia," reads the letter. Jaba Ioseliani expresses his gratitude to the Ukrainian people, especially the mothers and fathers of UNSO soldiers, for the assistance they have given the Georgian people.

Deputy Premier, Syrian Minister Discuss Barter Agreement

LD1310173093 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1510 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Kiev [no dateline as received]—A meeting between Vasyl Yevtukhov, deputy prime minister for issues of industry and construction, and a delegation from the Syrian Arab Republic, headed by 'Abd al-Rahman Madani, the minister of irrigation of the Syrian Arab Republic, took place at the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on 13 October. The minister shared Syria's experience of emerging from a complex economic situation similar to the one that Ukraine is going through. Ways of further developing relations between the countries were discussed, in particular the possibility of constructing three water engineering systems in Syria with the participation of Ukrainian specialists, and also specific plans of barter between the countries: metal, water engineering equipment, and drilling rigs from Ukraine, and phosphates, oil, cotton, textiles, and so on from Syria.

Foreign Ministry Delegation Holds Talks in Romania

LD1310175493 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1300 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] New talks began in Bucharest on 12 October, the continuation of the process of forming a legal and contractual basis for bilateral relations between Romania and Ukraine. A delegation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine has arrived in Bucharest, headed by Yuriy Buhayevskyy, head of the directorate for the countries of Europe and America.

Issues connected with the preparation of bilateral agreements and conventions and their initialling, signing and ratification, are being discussed at the talks, which will last for several days. At the same time preparation of the foundations for elaborating and signing an interstate political treaty by Ukraine and Romania is proceeding. The directions of Romanian-Ukrainian cooperation in the future are also being determined.

A new stage of relations between the two countries is being prepared, which according to all the signs will be completed by an official summit visit to Kiev by Romanian President Ion Iliescu. The official summit visit to Kiev by the Romanian president, when a number of Ukrainian-Romanian agreements and conventions expressing many accords on cooperation in various spheres will be signed, is planned for this year.

Kravchuk Approves Composition of EC Affairs Group

LD1310224993 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 2030 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Kiev [no date as received]—Ukraine's President Leonid Kravchuk today approved the composition of the Inter-Departmental Committee of Ukraine for European Communities Affairs. Deputy Prime Minister Valentyn Landyk was appointed chairman of the committee, Deputy Foreign Minister Oleksandr Makarenko was appointed deputy chairman. The committee consists of 17 representatives of ministries, state committees, the Agency for International Cooperation and Investments, the National Space Agency, the National Agency for Marine Research and Technologies, the Trade and Industry Chamber of Ukraine, and the State Export-Import Bank of Ukraine.

National Affairs

Defense Minister Discusses New Navy Commander

LD1310190093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1542 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Ostanin]

[Text] Moscow October 13 TASS—Ukrainian Defence Minister Colonel-General Radetskyy told officers at Ukrainian Naval Headquarters in Sevastopol today that the appointment of Vice-Admiral Vladimir Bezkorovainyy as the new commander of the Ukrainian Navy was in no way connected with his own appintment as the country's defence minister.

Radetsky said Bezkorovainyy was "a tested combat admiral whom the Defence Ministry does not doubt".

The former commander, Vice-Admiral Boris Kozhin, was moved to another job at his personal request first filed with the Defence Ministry in June, the minister said. "He has accomplished the task he was set," the minister stressed.

Says Navy To Be Based in Sevastopol

LD1310225993 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2046 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Colonel General Vitaliy Radetskiy, Ukraine's new defense minister, said in Sevastopol: "A Ukrainian Navy will exist and be based in Sevastopol."

He arrived in the city Wednesday to introduce Vice Admiral Vladimir Beskaravainy as the new commander of the Ukrainian Navy. Radetskiy said that Beskaravainy was an active and reliable soldier.

Radetskiy also said that Vice Admiral Boris Kozhin, the former commander, had not been removed. Rather, he had been relieved from his duty at his own request and awaits a new appointment by the Defense Ministry. "Kozhin has carried out his assignment. Trail blazers always find the going difficult," Radetskiy said.

Navy Commander Rejects Conflict With Black Sea Fleet

LD1310164193 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 0859 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Sevastopol [no date as received]—In an interview with a UNIAN correspondent on 12 October, the new commander of the Ukrainian Navy, Vice Admiral Volodymyr Bezkorovaynyy, said that he would not permit any political confrontation between servicemen of the Ukrainian Navy and those of the Black Sea Fleet. Volodymyr Bezkorovaynyy supports cooperation with the Black Sea Fleet's leadership. In the commander's words, there are ships in the composition of the Black Sea Fleet that are absolutely necessary for the Ukrainian fleet. "But there are also those, he noted, that could be given away. These are mainly the large ships."

As it became known to a UNIAN correspondent, the arrival in Sevastopol of Colonel General Vitaliy Radetskyy, Ukraine's defense minister, is expected in the near future. The chief of the defense department is to present Vice Admiral Volodymyr Bezkorovaynyy to the line officers of the Ukrainian Navy.

Outlines Priority Tasks

LD1310191293 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1600 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] The formation of headquarters components and the creation of a coast guard and naval air force are among the primary tasks now facing Ukraine's naval forces, Volodymyr Bezkorovaynyy, the new commander of the naval forces of Ukraine, told journalists. Among the main problems he pointed out the problem of providing servicemen with housing and food rations.

The new commander intends to build his relations with the Black Sea Fleet and its leadership on the principles of good neighborliness and mutual understanding.

New Navy Commander, Defense Minister Profiled

PM1310133393 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 3

[Vladimir Maryukha report under the "Events and Comments" rubric: "Kiev. Fall. Change of Cabinet. Key Posts in Ukrainian Defense Ministry Occupied by New People"]

[Text] Boris Kozhin, commander of the Ukrainian Navy, found out about his resignation... from the radio. Nevertheless, commenting on the appointment of Vice Admiral Vladimir Bezkorovaynyy to this post, Kozhin noted that he is "putting the Navy into safe hands." The new commander of the Ukrainian Navy himself—back in the summer KRASNAYA ZVEZDA assumed he would be appointed—is not, following the edict of President Leonid Kravchuk dated 8 October, in any hurry to express his political allegiance and views concerning the reorganization of the Navy.

In spring of this year, Vladimir Bezkorovaynyy was seconded from the post of commander of the Northern Fleet nuclear submarine flotilla to the command of the Ukrainian Ministry of Defense. On graduating from the Caspian Higher Naval School in 1967, Bezkorovaynyy subsequently occupied posts as high as commander of a nuclear submarine division. In 1981 he graduated from a Naval Academy. He has occupied the rank of vice admiral since July 1992. Before being seconded to Ukraine, Bezkorovaynyy was commander of a submarine strategic missile-armed craft flotilla for two years. The commander of the Ukrainian Navy comes from Uman, and he is 49.

Whereas Bezkorovaynyy's appointment had been predicted and was a matter of time, the Ukrainian president's decision to appoint Colonel General Vitaliy Radetskiy, commander of the Odessa Military District troops, to the post of minister of defense, was somewhat unexpected. But during ratification in the Supreme Soviet (which took place last Friday), his candidacy was supported by all factions opposing the nationalist wing of the Ukrainian parliament.

Born in the city of Khristinovka in Cherkassy Oblast, Vitaliy Radetskiy will celebrate his 50th birthday on the first day of next year. Having graduated from the Kiev Combined-Arms Command School, he made his way through all the posts from platoon commander to army commander in Dnepropetrovsk, seeing service in 24 garrisons and four military disctricts. Colonel General Radetskiy has two academies behind him—M.V. Frunze and the General Staff. Since 1992 he has been commander of the Odessa Military District troops. And when it comes to his family service record, his great-grandfather, Fedor Fedorovich Radetskiy, was an infantry general in the Russian Army, distinguishing himself at Shipka and Adrianopol, fighting in the Caucasus and elected in 1889 to the State Council of the Russian Empire.

During the discussion in parliament, Vitaliy Radetskiy refrained from making policy statements about his future activity. However, he stressed that the Ukrainian Army would be small, and, in the future, professional. The new minister intends to safeguard the new Army from various kinds of political trends. As for the future of the Black Sea Fleet and the development of the Ukrainian Navy, Radetskiy is convinced that the rash actions of politicians have led to deadlock, and only specialists—military specialists—can solve them problem.

Commentary Sees Danger in Morozov's Removal

AU1410112093 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 6 Oct 93 pp 1, 4

[Commentary by Valentyn Labunskyy, HOLOS UKRAYINY's military columnist: "Why Was Minister Morozov Compelled To Resign?"]

[Text] The news that Ukraine's President Kravchuk has accepted the resignation of Colonel General Kostyantyn Morozov as minister of defense has come as a real shock for our society. Why? For what purpose?

Until recently, Kostyantyn Petrovych [Morozov] was regarded in the highest power structures as a fortuitous appointee. It is almost impossible to find among servicemen such an intellectual, who is also a patriot, a cultured person, and a wise politician. Even his open adversaries held Gen. Morozov in high esteem. What then is the matter?

The explanation is very simple. After the summit in Massandra [in the Crimea], K. Morozov sharply criticized the idea of selling the Ukrainian part of the Black Sea Fleet, having openly declared that he, as the minister, insisted upon dividing the fleet and having the Russian Naval Forces withdrawn from Ukraine's ports. Unfortunately, the level of democratization in our society is not sufficiently high to let such independence of mind pass unpunished. Besides, the president is also the commander in chief of the Armed Forces and, naturally, he wants the minister of defense to support his policy.

It is true, though, that there were many shortcomings in K. Morozov's work. This is excessive emphasis on the "ceremonial" part of his work (visits, receptions, and news conferences) and the reorganizing of the Air Force, the Air Defense, and the system of military training that looks more like disorganizing, as well as ugly forms of "Ukrainization" in the army.

Recently, when I visited the troops, I heard from officers almost everywhere: "The army is falling apart. Personnel are demoralized. Everything that has not already been stolen is being stolen." The Ukrainian Army really needs

a strong hand. However, it is not serious to hope that General I. Bizhan may provide such a hand [Vitaliy Radetskyy has since been appointed to the post]. As candidates for the post of defense minister, Morozov and Bizhan are in different weight classes, to use a sporting term.

The dismissal of Morozov from the post of defense minister will further exacerbate the situation in the army. Besides, in the conditions of extreme instability in Russia, this constitutes a considerable threat to Ukraine's security.

Decree Creates Fund for Consolidating Defense Capacity

LD1310215593 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 2030 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Kiev [no dateline as received]— On 12 October Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk signed a decree on improving the rules of selling military property. In compliance with the decree, a Fund for Consolidating Ukraine's Defense Capacity is being set up. It will consist of the money earned as a result of selling military property, and rendering services of military-technical purpose to nonmilitary organizations and citizens. The decree envisages that the funds will be used to finance the defense needs of the state, the construction of housing for servicemen, and for other social needs. The Cabinet of Ministers has to determine the bodies and organizations which will be granted an exclusive right to sell weapons, military hardware, and property. The decree bans all other organizations from carrying out such operations. The Cabinet of Ministers will administer the money channelled to the fund.

Edict Approves Temporary Statutes for Armed Forces

AU1310134493 Kiev URYADOVYY KURYER in Ukrainian 9 Oct 93 p 2

[Presidential edict "On Temporary Statutes of Ukraine's Armed Forces"; issued in Kiev on 7 October]

[Text] In order to create legal norms for building Ukraine's Armed Forces and for their functioning, I decree the following:

1. To approve the Temporary Statute for Active Service in Ukraine's Armed Forces, the Temporary Statute for Internal Service in Ukraine's Armed Forces, and the Temporary Statute of Garrison and Guard Service in Ukraine's Armed Forces.

2. To have the action of the temporary statutes of Ukraine's Armed Forces as approved by this edict extended to military units of Ukraine's Armed Forces, Ukraine's Border Troops, Ukraine's National Guard, and other military formations created in conformity with Ukraine's legislation.

3. To have the temporary statutes of Ukraine's Armed Forces as listed in Article 1 of the given edict effective until military statutes approved by Ukraine's Supreme Council in accordance with Ukraine's law "On the Defense of Ukraine" are implemented.

[signed] Ukraine's President L. Kravchuk

[dated] Kiev, 7 October 1993

Kravchuk Discusses Privatization, Coal Industry Problems

LD1310193793 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1510 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Excerpts] Kiev, [no date as received]—Ukrainian Presieent Leonid Kravchuk had a number of meetings on 12 October—with members of the National Council of Entrepreneurs of the All- Ukrainian Association of Entrepreneurs, headed by Valeriy Babych, president of the association; with Oleksandr Stoyan, head of the Federation of Trade Unions of Ukraine; and also with the general directors of coal production associations and members of the Collegium of the State Committe for the Coal Industry of Ukraine. Acting Prime Minister Yukhym Zvyahilskyy also participated in the meetings.

The state of affairs in the private sector of the economy was discussed during the meeting with the entrepreneurs, in particular the issues of privatization, relations with the state sector of the economy, and problems of overcoming administrative pressure on entrepreneurship and banks. According to Oleksandr Shnypko, general director of the Association of Entrepreneurs, "officials have now found the image of an enemy in the person of commercial banks. In accordance with an instruction from Ukraine's state taxation inspectorate, the salary of managers of all commercial banks is being checked, which contravenes the law."

Leonid Kravchuk assured the entrepreneurs that from now on the problems of forming a market economy will be resolved jointly with entrepreneurs, in particular through their participation in the upcoming elections and in the elaboration of draft laws regarding developing entrepreneurship. The Ukrainian president also promised that his administration will examine all alternative draft laws and proposals submitted by entrepreneurs. [passage omitted]

The general directors of coal production associations and members of the Collegium of the State Committee for the Coal Industry of Ukraine demanded an increase in the optimal price of coal at least one and a half times, to oblige the National Bank of Ukraine to exchange Ukrainian karbovantsi for Russian rubles for the purchase of necessary equipment and timber in Russia. According to Volodymyr Lebedyev, a member of the Collegium of the State Committee for the Coal Industry and head of the main directorate of [words indistinct] "a critical situation has arisen in the industry: Since the beginning of the year delivery by the State Committee

for the Coal Industry to Ukraine's national economy has fallen short by 12,754,000 metric tonnes of coal."

Leonid Kravchuk obliged the working commission, headed by Yukhym Zvyahilskyy, to examine the coal employees' demands.

Opposes Immediate Price Deregulation

LD1310205093 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1715 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] The Ukrainian Government will support any proposals that coal mine managers would make for stabilizing production except those which might cause inflation, President Leonid Kravchuk told managers of coal-producing enterprises at a meeting on Tuesday [13 October].

The managers voiced fears that deregulation of coal prices would mean the end of Ukraine's independence. The president said coal prices should not be freed before state control was lifted from prices on all commodities.

Members of government said that of the 46 demands made by miners during the June strike, 17 had been satisfied, 22 were under consideration and seven had been rejected.

The government cancelled the practice of imposing fines on coal mines, increased their consumption funds and pledged to subsidize the industry until the end of the year.

The subsidies to be paid in October alone amount to 541 Bn karbovantsy.

Envoy to Canada To Return To Form Election Coalition

LD1310155393 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 0859 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Kiev [no date as received]—A UNIAN correspondent has discovered that Levko Lukyanenko, Ukraine's ambassador to Canada, recently sent a letter to Ukrainians in Canada. He expressed gratitude for assistance in setting up the Ukrainian Embassy, but stressed that events in Ukraine were causing him increasing concern. "I would like to continue friendship and cooperation with you, but the events in Ukraine over the last six months seem increasingly like the tragedy of 1922. When Ukraine's prime minister announced that he saw no other way out of the energy crisis but to sign an economic union with Russia and Belarus, the specter of 1922 refused to abandon me day and night. How can I remain in Canada when such a mortal threat hovers above our freedom?!", reads the letter. Levko Lukyanenko has called to save Ukraine. He intends to arrive in the fatherland and form an election coalition, in spite of the nature of relations between the leaderships of the Ukrainian Republican Party, Congress of National Democratic Forces, and Ukrainian People's Movement for Perestroyka.

Report Details Work of Supreme Council Session

AU1410111893 Kiev NARODNA ARMIYA in Ukrainian 6 Oct 93 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In Ukraine's Supreme Council Commission for Questions of Defense and State Security"]

[Text] On 5 October, the meeting of the Supreme Council's eighth session approved the agenda for the week and started discussing candidates proposed by the president for ministerial posts.

The draft constitutional law on the name, structure, and numerical strength of Ukraine's new parliament was discussed, a law that will underlie the draft law on the elections of Ukraine's people's deputies; the discussion of the draft of a new constitution was continued. The question of social protection of the population was discussed, as well as the presidential nominees to the posts of ministers and chairmen of state committees in the new government. The session suspended the powers of Ukraine's People's Deputy Vitaliy Kurashyk due to his appointment as Belarus' ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary in Ukraine.

The day before, on 4 October, Ukraine's Supreme Council Commission for Questions of Defense and State Security was held under the chairmanship of the commission's chairman Oleksandr Tarasenko.

The members of the commission discussed the following issues:

—On the Ukrainian presidential recommendation that Ukraine's Supreme Council approve candidates for posts of chairmen of the State Committee for Questions of Defense of Ukraine's State Border, Customs Committee, and Ukraine's Security Service;

—on the draft laws on altering and supplementing Articles 97 and 114-5 of Ukraine's Constitution (Main Law) and on Ukraine's laws "On Defense," "On Ukraine's Armed Forces," "On the General Military Duty and Military Service," and Ukraine's Supreme Council draft decree "On Establishing the Day of Ukraine's Armed Forces";

—on Ukrainian presidential recommendation that military formations of Ukraine's Ministry of Defense be exempted from paying the land tax.

It was decided to submit these issues, after their discussion, to the consideration of Ukraine's Supreme Council.

The members of the commission rejected Ukraine's draft law "On the Legal Regime During Martial Law," due to the flaws it contained. The draft law of Ukraine "On the Military Militia Within Ukraine's Armed Forces" was also returned to the Cabinet of Ministers for amendment. The members of the commission also disagreed with the draft of Ukraine's law "On Altering and Supplementing Ukraine's Laws 'On Pensions,' 'On the

Provision of the Senior and Rank-and-File Officials of Internal Affairs Organs With Pensions,"' and "On Ukraine's State Budget for 1993" (regarding limitations of payments to working pensioners).

The draft Disciplinary Statute of Ukraine's Armed Forces, the draft decrees "On Approving the Statute on the Punitive Military Unit" and "On the Subordination of Military Commissariats" were also submitted for consideration of Ukraine's Supreme Council.

Today's work and ministerial appointment will be reported in our next issue.

Belarus

Proposal Urges Minsk's Housing CIS Coordinating Bodies

LD1210221693 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1800 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Report by correspondent Aleksey Zhuk; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] According to architects' plans, there is a proposal to erect a building complex to house the CIS coordinating bodies here, in the center of Minsk. All necessary conditions for holding summits and work of the executive secretariat of the Commonwealth of Independent States will be created here.

These and other problems seem to have been paramount at today's meeting with Stanislav Shushkevich at the executive secretariat. The chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Belarus noted the need for practical measures to strengthen integration between the countries within the CIS. The documents signed at the recent meeting in Moscow have a strategic nature. Specific work to implement them is needed, and this is up to the experts who gathered in Minsk.

[CIS Executive Secretary I. Korotchenya—identified by caption] We are entering a new stage of drawing up documents relating to the implementation of the decisions of the heads of state on strengthening the Commonwealth by means of an economic alliance.

Shushkevich Signs Protocol

LD1310205893 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1715 GMT 13 Oct 93

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[Text] Parliamentary Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich visited the CIS headquarters in Minsk late on Tuesday.

Speaking afterwards, CIS Executive Secretary Ivan Korotchenya said the visit follows the impending reorganization of CIS coordinating structures and the need to resolve a number of related problems. One such problem remains the provision of housing facilities to CIS representatives in Minsk (despite continued promises by the city authorities, many of them are still living in hotels).

Shushkevich made it clear that the misunderstanding is caused by the failure of lower rank officials to comply with government instructions and he promised to intervene to get it sorted out.

Asked what he meant by laying hopes for a higher CIS role in the near future, the Belarussian leader said he implied that there must be more real decision making rather than mere declarations of intent.

Shushkevich and Korotchenya signed a protocol which among other things, provides for an agreement to be signed between the Belarusian Government and the CIS Secretariat on the organization's headquarters, privileges and immunity to CIS staff in Minsk and other aspects regulating relations between the Secretariat and the Belarussian Government. The agreement is expected to be based on the experience gained by other international agencies such as UN or UNESCO in relations with a host country.

Talks Continue With Russia on Military Defense

LD1110221093 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1618 GMT 11 Oct 93

[By BELINFORM correspondent Leonid Tratsevskiy]

[Text] Minsk, 11 Oct—Coordination of methods to keep the air defense of Belarus and Russia at a reliable level was the subject of a regular round of bilateral talks in Minsk between the delegations of the two countries' Defense Ministries.

Points of agreement on information and the financing of and provision for Russian troops stationed on Belarussian territory, the procedure for the removal of military property from the republic, communications systems, and other questions were clarified. The sides also discussed aspects of jurisdiction and mutual aid on matters linked to the temporary presence of units of Russian strategic forces in the Republic of Belarus. Methods of monitoring the quality of production supplied on military orders of the two defense ministries were also touched upon.

A BELINFORM correspondent was told by Lieutenant General Nikolay Churkin, head of the Belarusian military delegation, first deputy minister of defense, and chief of the general Staff of the republican Armed Forces, that the Russian-Belarusian military talks would continue on an equal footing in Russia and Belarus and would end this year.

Belarus, Russia Discuss Former USSR Property

LD1210220593 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1759 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] In the framework of the CIS, Belarus failed to be duly insistent in claiming its share of the former Soviet property abroad, First Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Tarazevich told a news conference in Minsk on Monday.

He reports that he had recently spoke with Russia's Ambassador to Minsk, Igor Saprykin, and discussed this problem with him. "The Russian side made no concrete promises," Tarazevich said.

He pointed of the need to step up the work of the intergovernmental commission, which was set up in the wake of the decision to abolish the USSR, to deal with the issue of its "legacy abroad."

Tarazevich neither confirmed nor denied the reports that he intends to be a candidate for elections to the Belarusian parliament. "I gave no official consent to this," said the First Deputy Foreign Minister. Until recently he was the head of the National Committee for Geodesy. Earlier he led the presidium of the Supreme Council of the Belarusian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Ethnic Policy and Ethnic Relations Commission of the Council of Nationalities of the Soviet Parliament and the Soviet Parliament's Budgetary and Financial Commission.

Russian Envoy Calls Talks With Belarus 'Fruitful'

LD1310231293 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Report from Minsk by correspondent Yuriy Sverko]

[Text] Russian-Belarusian talks were held in Minsk today on completing the construction and then the operation of the missile-attack warning station known as the Baranovichi System and located in Brest Oblast. Here is our Minsk correspondent Yuriy Sverko with the details.

[Sverko] Veniamin Popov, ambassador at large and leader of the Russian delegation at the talks with the Republic of Belarus, said in a Radio Rossii interview that the creation of the station at Baranovichi was envisioned by an agreement between the USSR and the United States. The head of the Russian delegation said, and I quote: Together with the Belarusian side, we are actively seeking a mutually acceptable solution to the question.

Veniamin Popov stressed that the Minsk talks were like a working business meeting, and no signing of any documents was envisioned. As for the Russian-Belarusian talks as a whole, the head of the delegation of the Russian Federation pointed out that intensive and painstaking work has been carried out over the past two years, intended to lay down the legal foundation for cooperation between the two states. It is necessary to create treaties and agreements to regulate bilateral ties in the military, political, economic, cultural, and other fields.

Veniamin Popov announced that, so far Belarus and Russia have concluded over 50 bilateral treaties and agreements, not to mention the 200 documents signed by the two countries within the CIS framework. A further 25 draft Russian-Belarusian agreements are now under discussion. In the opinion of the ambassador at large, September was particularly fruitful. Several major treaties in the economic field were signed, including one on unifying the monetary systems of Russia and Belarus. The prime ministers signed an agreement on the status of Russian strategic forces temporarily on the territory of Belarus, and on the procedure for withdrawing those troops.

Belarus and Russia have also concluded an agreement on cooperation to minimize the aftermath of the Chernobyl disaster. Veniamin Popov declared, and I quote: During these contacts, a fundamentally new atmosphere for our interaction was established. We have already abandoned the logic of the big brother and the little brother. All talks are conducted on the basis of equality.

The Russian ambassador at large emphasized that the work of preparing the documents was proceeding without a lot of fuss, but it was tense and difficult. Veniamin Popov also expressed hope that by the end of the year Russia and Belarus will have signed a consular convention.

'Huge Crowd' Attends Funeral of Colonel Killed in Moscow

WS1310154493 Minsk RID in Russian 0909 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Minsk—At the end of the last week, a zinc coffin was delivered to 36 Kuntsevshchina Street on the outskirts of Minsk.

A RID correspondent has learned that the coffin contained the body of Colonel Klyuchikov, an activist of the "leftist patriotic forces," who was killed during the events in Moscow. We have also learned some details of the "patriot's" death.

After the primary defense forces left the White House through the main door, those who tried to force their way through the back door were met with machine-gun fire from militia troops. The Belarusian colonel ended up being one of those victims.

The funeral was held on Saturday [9 October] and attended by a huge crowd. Several dozen servicemen arrived at the cemetery, including two Army trucks, a band, and an honor guard carrying Kalashnikov machine guns. Initially, a white-red-white Belarusian flag was draped over the coffin, but later, at the request of organizers, it was replaced with a red one. Standing around the coffin, dressed in red and wearing Soviet symbols, various speakers spoke long and angrily about "Yeltsin murderers," inevitable revenge, and swore to defend the authority of Soviets, restore the USSR, and remain faithful to the ideal for which the deceased had given his life.

Shushkevich Comments on Council of Europe Meeting

LD1210221793 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 2100 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Supreme Soviet Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich today held a news conference devoted to the results of the participation of the Belarusian delegation at the meeting of heads of state and governments of the member countries of the Council of Europe in Vienna.

In the capital of Austria, questions were considered concerning the role and place of the Council of Europe among other European structures, the strengthening of democratic security on the continent, the expansion and strengthening of the Council of Europe, reform of the

mechanisms in the area of human rights protection, protection of the rights of ethnic minorities, and so forth. Stanislaw Shushkevich informed journalists that in his speech to the participants of the summit, he drew their attention to the problems that the republic has come across in the changeover from totalitarianism to democracy. Belarus has taken on a fairly heavy burden, which is very hard to bear alone. So the European states should provide the republic with immediate assistance, considers Stanislav Shushkevich.

Assesses Chances for Joining Council

LD1110210893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1917 GMT 11 Oct 93

[By BELINFORM-TASS correspondent Larisa Lazar]

[Text] Minsk October 11 TASS—Head of the Belarusian Parliament, Stanislav Shushkevich, believes that Belarus has real chances to become a member of the Council of Europe in the near future and is going to meet the demands advanced by the international organisation.

The Council of Europe put before Belarus which submitted an application for membership, the following terms: To hold democratic elections on a multi-party basis, adopt a new constitution, carry out economic reforms and implement international documents in the field of defending human rights and national minorities.

Shushkevich, who participated in the council's meeting in Vienna, told reporters on Monday that he would urge lawmakers at the nearest parliament session to hold early elections of this supreme legislative body. The elections are expected to be held in March 1994. Two thirds of parliamentarians' votes are necessary to announce elections.

The head of the parliament also considers it possible to adopt a new constitution in the near future. The Constitutional Commission has prepared various drafts of the fundamental law on the basis of proposals made by lawmakers which will speed up the constitutional process.

Shushkevich noted that the Council of Europe had no claims to Belarus regarding its policy in respect of national minorities. At the same time the head of the parliament did not conceal that a decision on the entry of Belarus into the Council of Europe cannot be considered without due account of the events in other former Soviet republics, first of all in Russia.

Foreign Minister Kravchencko Begins Visit to UK

LD1110064193 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0629 GMT 11 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] London October 11 TASS—A package of documents laying the foundation for the development of bilateral political, economic, trade and financial relations between Belarus and Britain is to be signed during Belarusian Foreign Minister Petr Kravchenko's visit to Britain which begins today. This is the first official visit of a high-ranking Belarusian politician to London.

After talks with British foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd, the two countries are expected to sign a joint Belarusian-British declaration of principles of cooperation, an agreement on the protection of investments and an agreement on cooperation in the field of education, science and culture.

Meets UK Foreign Secretary

LD1210204593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1718 GMT 12 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Voronkov]

[Text] London October 12 TASS—Visiting Belarusian Foreign Minister Petr Kravchenko met with British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd in London on Tuesday. Kravchenko arrived in London on a four-day visit which is the first visit since Belarus became independent.

The sides discussed a number of international problems, primarily, the situation in Russia. Kravchenko told the British foreign secretary that Belarus fully supported Russian President Boris Yeltsin and regards relations with Russia to be of great importance.

During the meeting the sides touched upon problems of disarmament and Belarus joining the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, in particular. Much attention was paid to belarus' relations with the EC and signing an agreement on partnership.

The two foreign ministers signed a joint declaration on further development of political, economic and cultural contacts between the two countries.

Great Britain has declared today that the British charge d'affaires in Belarus will be given the status of a plenipotentiary ambassador.

Premier Kebich Postpones Visit to RSA

LD1210191193 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1424 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Belarusian Prime Minister Vyacheslav Kebich has postponed his visit to South Africa from October until the beginning of 1994, the Belarusian premier's staff told INTERFAX.

The change to earlier plans was motivated by the need to finalize a number of bilateral agreements which were to be signed during the visit.

CIS Countries Fail To Honor Supply Agreements

LD1310191193 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1558 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By BELINFORM correspondent Aleksandr Lyushkevich for TASS]

[Text] Minsk October 13 TASS—According to informed sources, none of Belarus' partners in the Commonwealth has been as good as his word: Deliveries of goods to Belarus under mutual agreements have been lagging behind schedule for quite some time now.

Russian daily supplies of oil to Belarus now make up 33,000 tons, which is 10,800 tons less than agreed.

For eight million tons of Russian oil received by September 1, Belarus supplied the adjacent country with 29,800 tractors, 11,900 heavy trucks, 2768 metal-cutting machines, 175,800 refrigerators, 170,200 television sets, 38,200 tons of meat and meat products, and 268,800 tons of milk and dairy products.

Ukrainian supplies of sunflower oil and sugar were virtually ten times less than agreed, and Uzbekistan has undersupplied about one-third of the cotton fibre.

Belarus, in turn, decreases deliveries to these countries—as of September 1, it sold 15.7 percent fewer tractors, 4.9 percent fewer heavy trucks, 44.7 percent fewer bicycles, 26.6 percent fewer television sets, and 70 percent less of potash fertilizers than agreed.

Documents on Property Rights With Ukraine Exchanged

WS0810142293 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1300 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] At the Belarusian Foreign Ministry, Belarusian and Ukrainian representatives have exchanged the ratified documents on the mutual recognition of the right of their states to regulate property relations. The document was signed in Minsk in February.

KGB Complains of Foreign Diplomats' Espionage

PM1210102593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[INTERFAX report: "Belarus: Foreign Diplomats Are Engaged in Espionage, but This Is Hard to Combat"]

[Text] The Belarusian special services have a "number of complaints" against the activity of the diplomatic missions in the republic, an informed source at the Belarusian KGB has announced.

But the lack of legislation on state secrets and secret establishments and territories is complicating the Belarusian special services' work in this direction. Even when they have information that some staffers of foreign missions in the republic sometimes engage in business outside their competence, the KGB workers cannot always, because of the lack of a legislative base, "halt the activity" of foreigners who come to their attention.

Report on 'Espionage' Criticized

WS1310113493 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0400 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] An INTERFAX report entitled "Belarus: Foreign Diplomats Are Engaged in Espionage, But This Is Hard To Combat," published in 9 October IZVESTIA, relating to well-informed sources from the Belarusian KGB, reported that Belarusian special services have a number of complaints against activities of diplomatic missions in the republic, and that there is a lack of appropriate legislation to halt activities of certain foreigners engaged in business outside their competence.

The leadership and employees of the Belarusian KGB consider the IZVESTIA article as yet another attack against special services of an independent state, aimed at eliciting negative reaction from the international community toward the Belarusian KGB, accusing it of "espionage mania," and disorganizing its work.

Speaking about the alleged lack of appropriate legislation, it must be emphasized that the present legislation provides for special services to effectively conduct state security protection activities.

We express our deep concern that the newspaper, touching upon such a specific issue, relies on some suspicious and anonymous sources.

Expert Casts Doubt on Second Stage of Arms Reduction

LD1310223893 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2046 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] In an interview with INTERFAX, the head of the Belarussian National Control and Inspections Agency, Major General Viktor Vakar, has described the first stage of the republic's arms reduction program as "quite successful." However, he put into question the success of the next stage—destruction of up to 60 percent of combat planes, tanks, and armored vehicles—due to financial difficulties.

Vakar said that the republic had not received a single dollar from anybody so far, while the proposals of other states regarding their assistance in providing know-how and technologies for destructing the Belarusian hardware are of no use for the republic.

The high officer considers arms reduction to be a global concern and sees the way out of the situation in setting up an international fund to finance arms reductions. With such a fund, the world community could encourage certain states' moves toward peace. If the Vienna Joint Consultative Group gave permission to sell out part of the hardware to be destroyed, it would help Belarus to make a step forward in this direction, according to Vakar. His agency is now preparing a national program for fulfilling the republic's international commitments in regards to arms reductions, which will have a considerable impact on the state budget, he said.

Kozlovskiy Conducts Mechanized Brigade Military Exercise

WS0810140693 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1100 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Belarusian Prime Minister Vyacheslav Kebich was present at the military training of a mechanized brigade according to the Armed Forces combat training plan. The training was organized by the Belarusian Defense Ministry and headed by Belarusian Defense Minister Pavel Kozlovskiy. Military attaches of the United States, Germany, France, Poland, and other countries were present. The privates and commanders have demonstrated high battle readiness. The defense minister congratulated the servicemen on the successful fulfillment of their military tasks. Vyacheslav Kebich held talks with the servicemen concerning Army life.

Belarus Official Comments on Privatization Process

WS1110130093 Minsk ZVYAZDA in Belarusian 28 Sep 93 pp 1,3

[Interview with Kazimir Eduardovich Ramanowski, deputy chairman of the State Committee for State Property, by Aleksandr Shchadranyuk; place and date not given: "If Privatization Is Not Carried Out Legally It Is Carried Out Illegally"—first paragraph is ZVYAZDA introduction]

[Text] We asked Kazimir Eduardovich Ramanowski, deputy chairman of the State Committee for State Property, to comment on the process of privatization in the Republic.

[Aleksandr Shchadranyuk] Kazimir Eduardovich, since the fall of 1992, the process of privatization in the Republic has discontinued. However, at the last Supreme Soviet session, deputies adopted a state program for privatization in 1993 and "The Law on Personalized Vouchers." We waited for the "privatization boom." However, we were mistaken. Why?

[Eduardovich Ramanowskiy] For the last few months, our commissions finished the privatization process at 22 enterprises, while all in all, we have adopted a decision to privatize 70 sites which are currently under state control.

Unfortunately, small-scale privatization is going on very slowly. As of today, only 250 municipal sites have been privatized. The problem is that local executive councils are slow to adopt the documents on the privatization of municipal sites, even though such documents were endorsed in March 1993.

Only deputies in the Mogilev Oblast Executive Council have adopted this program. This process is literally dragging on in the rayons. In Gomel Oblast, only eight out of 30 rayons have adopted this program, in Vitebsk Oblast, only 10 out of 26; in Brest Oblast, only two out of 22; in Grodno Oblast, only 13 out of 24; in Minsk Oblast, only 11 out of 31; and in Mogilev Oblast, only one out of 27.

Currently, all our officials should understand: If privatization is not carried out legally it is carried out illegally. That means that state enterprises join various joint ventures, associations with limited liability, grant money to the charter funds, allot credit on easy terms or interest-free credits, and so on.

[Shchadranyuk] According to the "Law on Demonopolization and Privatization," a working collective that decided to privatize its enterprise can pay 20 percent less than the market price for the enterprise. Therefore, the state stimulates the creation of collective (or people's) enterprises. However, it is known that the proportion of such enterprises in the economy of Western countries is very low—only several percent—because they work less efficiently and receive lower profits than private enterprises. Is it not risky to finally "kill" the republican economy by transporting the state enterprises into "industrial kolkhozes?"

[Ramanowskiy] The main form of our current privatization is the transformation of state enterprises into stock holding associations. A collective enterprise is an interim stage. You may ask me the question: Why do we prefer stock holding companies? The reason is simple: No one in Belarus has enough money to buy the state property.

As of 1 April 1993, the price of all state property was valued at 14.7 trillion rubles [R], while state property destined for privatization cost R11 trillion.

On the other hand, as of 1 September 1993, the Belarusian population had R62.3 billion in their bank accounts. The accounts of enterprises contained R200 billion.

If we speak about the efficiency of the work of collective enterprises, we can look at the facts. We have such privatized enterprises as AMKADOR, MILAVITSA, BABRUYSKDREV that were bought out before. They have always been profitable and they continue to be profitable. Anyway, they have problems and start to think about the creation of stock holding associations. At the moment, they are being transformed into closed stock holding associations. That means that only the workers of these enterprises can be stock holders. However, the time will pass and they will start selling their stocks on the exchange.

[Shchadranyuk] Kazimir Eduardovich, you said that the only means of privatization in the Republic is for working collectives to buy state property...

[Ramanowskiy] Even the working collectives lack the finances for these purposes...

[Shchadranyuk] Why not use the billions of rubles from the "shadow economy?"

[Ramanowskiy] There exist auctions which represent a form of privatization of state property. In my opinion, small-scale privatization should be conducted in this manner.

Not long ago, we sold two cantonments at the auction. They were bought by companies with limited liability. Only the tax inspectors know from where the money came. What is important for us is that they transferred the money at once.

[Shchadranyuk] Will you sell big enterprises at the auctions?

[Ramanowskiy] We are likely to start selling the bankrupt enterprises.

[Shchadranyuk] Do we have bankrupt enterprises in the Republic?

[Ramanowskiy] According to the latest information, we expect some 400 large bankruptcies this year. The Council of Ministers has already charged the appropriate ministries with formulating—according to the "Law on Bankruptcy"—a procedure for qualifying an enterprise's bankruptcy.

[Shchadranyuk] In my opinion, privatization is being dragged along so slowly in the Republic because the citizens have not yet received their vouchers. When will you start to distribute the vouchers to the people?

[Ramanowskiy] Our vouchers will look like certificates. We have already received a sample voucher. A citizen will receive his certificate-voucher in a savings bank and can open a voucher account.

[Shchadranyuk] Kazimir Eduardovich, it is clear that we will not tame inflation anytime soon. Will the vouchers be indexed too?

[Ramanowskiy] The vouchers will be indexed along with the indexation of the prices of state property.

[Shchadranyuk] When are you planning to conduct the "voucherization?"

[Ramanowskiy] At the moment, we think that the vouchers will be effective until the end of the privatization process in Belarus, that is until the end of 1999.

[Shchadranyuk] What financial means do you need to implement the "Law on Vouchers?"

[Ramanowskiy] This is an enormous sum. The mere printing of one voucher currently costs R33. Our Belarusian Printing House can fulfill this order but their material base is too weak. In my opinion, they will be able to buy the necessary equipment once they receive our order.

We should next create some 2,800 or more workplaces to be able to distribute these vouchers among the population.

[Shchadranyuk] Can you name the amount of income per voucher?

[Ramanowskiy] At the beginning, the income is not expected to be considerable. Considering 1992 prices, a person will receive R745 per voucher. If we admit that this year alone prices have increased by eight times, then a person's income will be some R5,000. However, what will that R5,000 mean in March 1994 when a person receives his voucher? He will have hardly enough to buy ½ kg of sausages.

Therefore, the government considered that the immediate distribution of vouchers to be premature. First, it is very expensive. Second, a person will not reap any profit from his voucher.

In addition, we should take into account the fact that the enterprises are opposing this process. Currently, they pay only taxes while later they will have to pay dividends as well. Therefore, the process will be very complicated.

[Shchadranyuk] That means that the enterprises will not participate in the privatization...

[Ramanowskiy] In fact, the Committee for State Property can carry out privatization on its own initiative. Anyway, we would not like to do this because the results will be poor.

Parliament Issues New Decree on Financial Situation

WS1110085893 Minsk NARODNAYA GAZETA in Belarusian 25-27 Sep 93 p 3

[Decree No. 2498-12 issued by the Presidium of the Belarusian Supreme Soviet in Minsk on 15 September: "On Financial Situation and Implementation of Monetary and Credit Policy in the Republic of Belarus"]

[Text] The Presidium of the Belarusian Supreme Soviet hereby decrees:

1. To take into consideration the report of Finance Minister S.P. Janchuk and Belarusian National Bank Chairman S.A. Bogdankevich on the financial situation and implementation of monetary and credit policy in the Republic of Belarus.

2. In connection with the fact that the Belarusian Council of Ministers, along with the Belarusian National Bank, are making attempts to create a new ruble zone and to unite the monetary systems of Belarus and Russia, it is hereby proposed:

—the Belarusian Council of Ministers and the Belarusian National Bank submit to the Presidium of the Belarusian Supreme Soviet a package of the required documents by 1 November 1993;

—commissions of the Belarusian Supreme Soviet discuss this package of proposals by 15 November 1993 and submit it to a regular session of the Belarusian Supreme Soviet.

3. To authorize the Belarusian Council of Ministers and the Belarusian National Bank to take measures to reduce the trade and balance-of-payments deficit to a level provided by existing financial resources.

4. To authorize the Belarusian National Bank, along with the Belarusian Finance Ministry, to conduct negotiations with the Central Bank of Russia and sign an agreement providing ruble supplies for debt accounts in non-trade operations during the transitional period (amount and system of mutual sales and purchases of the accounting checks of the Belarusian National Bank and Russian rubles).

5. To reduce the rate of inflation, the Belarusian National Bank and the Belarusian Council of Ministers are authorized to implement a firm monetary and credit policy, not to exceed the bounds established with the Central Bank of Russia and foreseen by the Belarusian Council of Ministers' statement on economic policy.

[Signed] S. Shushkevich, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Belarus

[Dated] Minsk, 15 September 1993

Economists Say No Prospects for Economic Development

WS0810143793 Minsk FEMIDA in Russian 27 Sep-3 Oct 93 p 3

[Unattributed BELAPAN report: "What Are the Chances of Post-Soviet Belarus?"]

[Text] According to the results of recent studies conducted by the Russian Institute of World Economy and International Relations, Belarus has little chance to integrate with the world economy. Unlike Russian, Kazakh, and Uzbek production, Belarusia is not able to compete on world markets. Only certain types of industrial production can meet world standards. Belarus significantly depends on its economic relations with Russia. The most important, of course, are deliveries of energy and raw materials. Judging from the Russian economists' conclusions, Belarus does not have practically any preconditions for conducting independent economic activities.

It is possible that the political and ethnical stability could lure some foreign investments in the near future. However, according to the economists, one should not expect a massive flow of foreign capital.

Fuel Deliveries, Stocks Situation Said 'Critical'

PM1110134393 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Oct 93 p 7

[Report from the ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA, ITAR-TASS, and REUTER column under the "News From All Around the World" rubric: "Minsk"]

[Text] According to specialists' estimates, Belarus' situation regarding fuel deliveries, fuel stocks, and future fuel supplies has reached a critical phase. It cannot be ruled out that within four to six weeks, enterprises will begin closing down as a result of the fuel shortage. The reason for this is that because of Russia's withdrawal of old-style bank notes from circulation and the virtual exit of Belarus from the ruble zone, additional difficulties and complications have arisen regarding the acquisition and accumulation of fuel stocks.

Moldova

Snegur, CSCE Mission Chief Discuss Reform Process

AU1110214893 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 2000 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Mr. Mircea Snegur, president of the Republic of Moldova, today received the CSCE Mission chief in Chisinau, Timothy Williams.

According to our correspondent Mircea Dascaliuc, during the dialogue, the two sides exchanged views on tangible cooperation between the two sides and on the way in which the economic reform process has started off in the Republic of Moldova.

On this occasion, President Snegur emphasized the special contribution the CSCE permanent mission is making to intensifying democratic processes in Moldovan society.

Also today at parliament headquarters, a meeting was held by the Parliamentary Commission for Economic Problems and Privatization. The discussions referred to the stage of implementing the commission decisions adopted on 20 July 1993 regarding the progress of the privatization process, combating illegal privatization, and a number of amendments and additions to current laws.

Snegur Lauds Yeltsin's 'Defense of Democracy'

LD0910093993 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1916 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] President Mircea Snegur of Moldova has lauded the firmness with which Boris Yeltsin stood up in defense of democracy and smashed the recent rebellion in Moscow. In a message to the Russian leader on Friday, Snegur said Chisinau "is prepared as far as possible to help towards Russia's progressive reforms."

The message says the stability and security of newly-independent states of the former Soviet Union, including Moldova, depends on how deep and irreversible Russia's reform goes. The Moldovan leader called on Yeltsin to help implement a range of measures which would in the long run enable the normalizing of the situation in Transdniestria, including the release of Moldovan prisoners in Tiraspol.

Snegur expressed hope for further cooperation between the two countries in bringing a peaceful solution to the Transdniestrian conflict and "neutralizing those forces who continue to hatch criminal plans" for embroiling Moldova and Russia in civil wars.

Acclaims 'Stifling' of 'Armed Mutiny'

AU0810201693 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1714 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau, ROMPRES 8/10/1993—President Mircea Snegur of the Republic of Moldova sent his Russian counterpart Boris Yeltsin a telegram expressing satisfaction at "the stifling of the armed mutiny in Moscow organized by communist revenge-seekers, by fascist groups and a part of the former deputies representatives of the Soviets." The message reads that "after the visits made by Rutskoy, Makashov and Baburin in the eastern parts of Moldova, the leaders in Tiraspol created ever more zealously groups of terrorists for the conquest of Kremlin, claiming that the restoration of the communist regime would begin from 'the isle of socialism—Transdniester.'" Then, President Snegur mentions that in "Transdniester the methods of armed mutiny and terror against the lawful power were developed, methods applied in Moscow by the so- called defenders of the White House. The blood of Muscovites," the message reads, "stains also the hands of the Tiraspol leaders who are ready at any time to plot another bloodshed," MOLDOVA PRES reports.

Expresses Support for Moscow Government

AU1110174893 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2006 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 8/10/1993—President Mircea Snegur sent to the Russian President a telegram in which he expresses the support to the actions of the Moscow Government undertaken in order to protect democratic reforms. The telegram points out the necessity of getting lessons from last events in Moscow which will allow to prevent repeating them in the future. Declaring that pro-communist forces in the Russian capital were also based on mercenaries from Tiraspol, the President of Moldova indicates that after the visits of General Rutskoy, Makashov, Baburin and others in Eastern regions of Moldova, leaders of Tiraspol once again declared the restoration of "socialism in Dniester." "The self-styled regime of Smirnov who speculates on the national feelings of national minorities," succeeded in getting financial and material support from abroad using anti-constitutional and anti-governmental formations to buy military technique," indicates the telegram. The danger of using Dniester as a base of reactionist forces which threaten democracy had not actually decreased but increased. Dniester is the territory where the power belongs to reactionary forces which attempted to fight in Moscow. It is Dniester where the methods of using Army and terrorism against state authorities were tested. The same methods were implemented by defenders of the 'White House' in Moscow," underlines the message. The president mentioned that the character of progressive transformations in Russia is directly influencing the stability and security of the new independent states including Moldova. Snegur noted: "We demand that you are supported in your attempts contributing to the stabilization of situation in Dniester, including the plan concerning the settlement of the problem of political detainees from Tiraspol, in the spirit of our agreements."

Embassy Confirms Dniester Forces in Moscow Events

AU0810213893 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 2000 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Nicolae Mircea Nastase report from Chisinau]

[Text] A communique by the Embassy of the Republic of Moldova in Moscow, which was sent to the mass media for publication, emphasizes that the entire public, who followed the development of events in Moscow, learned about the participation of the combatants from the Dniester Battalion in Tiraspol on the side of the rebels by guarding the White House and then by participating in military operations.

It has been learned recently, the communique mentions, that there were not only a few scores of volunteers in Moscow, as Russian journalists thought, but 150 soldiers with weapons, who were subordinated to General (?Matashov) and who established contacts with the leaders of the communist opposition, thus coordinating their actions in accordance with the opposition's plans. Moreover, on 30 September, several Muscovite newspapers were informed of their arrival and it was mentioned that they were in the Russian capital to defend constitutional order.

In accordance with information held by the Embassy of the Republic of Moldova in Moscow, there is no doubt that members of the Dniester Battalion, specialized for such operations in Bender and other localities of the Republic of Moldova in the spring and summer of last year, were among the instructors and those who carried out the bloody actions against the Ostankino Television Center. The presence of these fighters on the side of the rebel forces, the communique specifies, was actually signaled by numerous journalists, who watched the events, as well as by President Boris Yeltsin and Deputy Prime Minister Igor Gaydar in their televised speeches.

And the attempts by the Tiraspol leaders to deny the participation of these forces in the armed rebellion cannot fool anyone.

These forces, as well as the penetration of the Dniester pro- communist influence to the deepest spheres of the state power in Russia causes the inhabitants of the Republic of Moldova, irrespective of their nationality, to protest and ask themselves if at this point there are still people in Moscow who do not note the pro-imperial and pro-communist policy promoted by the leaders in Tiraspol and the destabilizing role played by this regime in this part of Europe, a regime whose goals and tasks are diametrically opposed to those established by the current leaders in Russia, the communique of the embassy of the Republic of Moldova in Moscow, which was distributed to the mass media in the capital of the Russian Federation, emphasizes in conclusion.

Russian General Investigates Role

PM1210153993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Svetlana Gamova report: "General Lebed Elucidates Who Fought in Moscow From Dniester Region"]

[Text] Chisinau—A. Lebed, commander of the 14th Russian Army, has begun his own investigation into the persons who participated in the October events in Moscow on the side of the White House and who had fought previously in the Dniester region.

Speaking of the role of the Dniester region's power structures in that affair, Lebed commented that "two local generals have been outlawed by the blood that was shed," and the Dniester region has been outlawed, as it were, along with them. The general evidently had in mind the freezing of the Dniester region's bank accounts in Russia, including the 14th Army's bank account, as reported by Moldovan national television.

Concerning his relations with A. Rutskoy, Lebed commented that in the situation which took shape "it would have been better for him to remain in the debris of the White House."

This topic—the Dniester region in the events in Moscow—remains a focus of attention in the Moldovan mass media. National television has reported the return to Tiraspol of injured defenders of the White House. According to information at Gen. Lebed's disposal, a group of people who had officially applied for leave and for official trips really did leave for Moscow on the eve of the events. But it has not yet been ascertained whether people from the Dniester region themselves or volunteers from Russia, Ukraine, and Abkhazia who fought on the side of the Dniester region guard in 1992 participated in the bloody events.

Corpses of Dniester Citizens Returned

AU1110174493 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2006 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 8/10/1993—Sources from the Ministry of Defense of the self-proclaimed Dniester Republic communicated that yesterday at about 4 p.m. [1300 GMT] a Tiraspol military jet "IL-18" arrived from Moscow. The quoted source states that the jet transported corpses of militaries from the battalion "Dniester" who played an active role during last events in Moscow on the side of Khasbulatov-Rutskoy. The Commander of the 14th Army forbid to examine the jet which was met by Tiraspol guardians arrived in two trucks. Boris Barcari, Chief of the Anti-Air Service of the Moldovan Ministry of Defense reported to BASA that the jet was detected but he did not know about its cargo. Grigoriy Larin, Chief of the Department controlling the air space of Moldova refused to make any comments.

New Evidence on Tiraspol Involvement

AU1310153793 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2105 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 12/10/1993—According to reliable sources, the Commission of the Russian Ministry of Security, recently arrived in Dniester, had acquired a document proving a big shipment of arms from Tiraspol to Moscow. The document says that 300 guns, 6 machine guns, 80 pistols, 7 sniper guns and other ammunition was sent on September 25 from Tiraspol to Moscow. Ivan Burgudi, former head of the Gagauz National Guard, was shown in the document as receiver of the delivery. The same sources added that Ilya Konstantinov and Victor Alksnis, leaders of the Russian National Salvation Front had fled to Gagauzia. On his way to Comrat, Victor Alksnis, wounded in a clash in Moscow, was aided in Tiraspol. The two are involved in the Moscow rebellion and are wanted by Russian judicial bodies. Decision-makers from Comrat told BASA that the two Russian rebels are not on the Gagauz territory. They said this information was a mere political joke.

Lebed Says Dniester 'Commandos' Involved

AU1310104693 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2105 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Tiraspol, BASAPRESS 12/10/1993—From our special correspondent: Today [14th Army commander] General Aleksandr Lebed confidentially informed deputies gathered at the session of the Transdniestrian Supreme Soviet about the involvement of Transdniestrian commandos in the Moscow mutiny. The commander of the 14th Army demanded to convoke an extraordinary session on 13 October "to investigate the created situation in the light of last events in Moscow." Lebed said that it is necessary to urgently dismiss the minister of security and the minister of external affairs from Tiraspol. He said the "otherwise the whole Dniestrian Moldovan Republic will suffer."

In today's issue of the newspaper IZVESTIYA Svetlana Gomova informs that according to the information given by General Lebed a group of people from Transdniester left for Moscow on the eve of the recent events there. The newspaper states that Lebed will proceed to his own investigation regarding the disclosure of the participation of that group in the dramatic events in Moscow. Referring to his relations with Aleksandr Rutskoy, Lebed said that "in the present situation this information should better remain under ruins in the White House," underlines the journalist of IZVESTIYA accredited to Chisinau.

14th Army Denies Report

AU1310072793 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2027 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS 11/10/1993—A communique of the Press Service of the 14th Army denies the previous news of BASAPRESS that a plane with coffins from Moscow landed on the Tiraspol Military Aerodrome. According to the communique, the IL-18 aircraft transported soldiers of the 14th Army and peacekeeping forces. The members of the unified commission were not allowed to control the aircraft. Previously the representatives of the Unified Control Commission were allowed to inspect the planes landed on the Tiraspol Aerodrome, stated the head of the Press Bureau of the Moldovan Ministry of Defence. Captain Boris Tihenki, Moldovan representative, informed the Moldovan Ministry of Defence that the Transdniester border guards interdicted the access of members of security. "When we were finally allowed on board of the plane, all doors were sealed," said Tihenki.

Prosecutor To Help Investigate Crimes

AU0810200693 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1800 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Nicolae Mircea Nastase report from Chisinau]

[Excerpt] The prosecutor general of the Republic of Moldova, Mr. Dumitru Postovan, has promised the general prosecutor of Russia to help investigate the crimes committed during the armed rebellion in Moscow by combatants from the Dniester Republic.

The message proposes that criminals, who, after the rebellion was curbed, hid throughout the Dniester Republic, as well as the Tiraspol leaders, who sent those combatants to the Russian capital, be extradited to Moscow.

Mr. Postovan has asked the general prosecutor of Russia to provide him with information about the participation of Dniester people in the events in Moscow, affirming that sending armed people to Moscow was done in an organized way and under the guidance of the Tiraspol leaders. [passage omitted]

Government Denies Hiding Alksnis, Konstantinov

LD1310120093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0950 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau, October 13 (TASS)—Authorities of the Gagauz Autonomy and the Dniester Region of Moldova today denied reports about active participants in Moscow's violence in early October, Victor Alksnis and Ilya Konstantinov, hiding on their territory.

According to the Chisinau news agency BASAPRES, Alksnis and Konstantinov are now in hiding in the town of Komrat in southern Moldova, sheltered by authorities of the unrecognized Gagauz Republic.

The same source said "the fugitives made a stop-over in Tiraspol on their way to Komrat".

Gagauz parliament chairman Mikhail Kendigelian told ITAR-TASS that "it is impossible to conceal such well-known people in small Kamrat. What's more, the Gagauz people have no intention of intervening in Russia's internal affairs and are not interested in complicating relations with the Russian Government".

Reports of the Kishinev agency were denied by authorities of the Dniester Area and the commandment of the 14th Russian Army. No confirmation or denial of the report came from the Ministry of National Security of Moldova.

Moscow's Change in Attitude Toward Tiraspol Viewed

AU1310073793 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2027 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS 11/10/1993—After the proclamation of Moldova's independence, Chisinau authorities have perhaps the most real chance to win again the contest with Tiraspol for the influence on the Russian leadership. The efforts of the presidency and of the Department for External Ties display the firm decision of Chisinau to use the political environment after the Moscow rebellion. This environment was the one where Tiraspol used arms against forces represented by Yeltsin. The situation of 1991, when even Russian democrats neglected Moldova's solidarity with Russia and supported Transdniester, gave a good lesson to Chisinau officials. This is why public opinion is today often directed towards any detail which confirms that "the tentacles of pro-communist Transdniestrian influence have deeply penetrated into Russian power structures." Are there still people in Moscow ready to ignore the pro-imperial and pro-communist policy of Transdniester leaders? said an "inconvenient" declaration of the Moldova Embassy in Moscow. On the other hand, President Snegur stated in a telegram to Yeltsin after the Moscow events had ended that "the danger of using Transdniester for other provocations against Russian

democratic forces by comrades Rutskoy and Khasbulatov, who remained free, is increasing." Mircea Snegur asked for the help of president Yeltsin for "a list of measures to help the stabilization in Transdniester, including in solving the problem of political detainees of Tiraspol." Also, General Lebed said during a TV broadcast that "together with two Transdniester generals guilty for the involvement of Tiraspol in the Moscow rebellion, the self-proclaimed Dniester Republic could become outlawed itself." The recent events changed radically Moscow's attitude to Tiraspol. Andrey Kozyrev, Russian minister of foreign affairs, said "Tiraspol bandits who came to Moscow to defend the White House have made war a profession of theirs." "They have nothing in common with real defenders of Transdniestrian people." If so, what is the formula of solving the problems in Moldovan eastern regions? Though there is small hope that Moscow changes its position, it is for sure that general Lebed will participate in regulating the situation in the zone. The Russian Army commander recently denied rumours about his dismissal and return to Moscow. He proved again that he will not ignore his post of deputy in the Tiraspol Parliament.

Embassy in Moscow Issues Declaration on Dniester

AU1010212593 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2015 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 7/10/1993—The problem of releasing political detainees from Tiraspol as well as the settlement of the situation in eastern regions of Moldova could be easily solved unless Tiraspol separatists were supported by those who used arms to restore the former empire and communist regime in Russia, states the declaration-appeal of the Moldovan Embassy in Moscow. In Dniester Moldova faced the similar problems with the same enemies of democracy who organized crisis in Moscow. Due to direct orders of Tiraspol leaders to help defenders of the "White House," approximately 150 commandos from the battalion "Dniester" were sent to Moscow. Being alarmed by failure of mutiny in Moscow, the leaders of pro-communist leaders from Tiraspol ordered illegal judicial structures of the self-proclaimed Dniester Republic to urgently continue the trial of the Tiraspol Six, who were arrested about 16 months ago by faked accusations, indicates the Declaration. The Embassy of the Republic of Moldova in Russian Federation "appeal to political parties, all democratic organizations and mass media from Russian Federation to express stern protest regarding the illegal actions of leaders and judicial bodies of the self- proclaimed Dniester Republic. The Embassy hopes that the present Government of Russia will categorically pronounce and contribute using all possible measures for releasing Tiraspol detainees." The Declaration-Appeal states that "such kind of gesture will be the point of solidarization of democratic forces on the whole post-Soviet territory and will cease any attempts towards communist revenge."

Finance Minister Says Russia Provides Bulk of Foreign Loans

LD1410100093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0930 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau October 14 TASS—Russia accounts for a lion's share of easy-term loans, granted to Moldova this year, Moldovan Minister of Finance Klavdia Melnik said in an interview with the MAKLER-TELEGRAPH newspaper. According to Ms. Melnik, Russia granted low-interest loans to Moldova for purchasing fuel and, at the same time, kept the price of the energy carriers, supplied to Moldova, below the level of the world market.

Ms. Melnik said as well, that 20 billion lei, granted by Romania to Moldova for the import of fuel, make up only 10 per cent of foreign loans. Besides, the price of Romanian fuel is equal to that of the world market, or even higher, because of the specific features of its production process.

Aside from Russia and Romania, easy-term loans were granted to Moldova by the World Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Foreign loans will account for 15 per cent of the gross domestic product of Moldova, which is expected to amount to one trillion 890 billion roubles this year.

Foreign Minister Tau Meets With Officials in U.S.

AU1110174693 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1615 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Washington, ROMPRES 11/10/1993—Nicolae Tau, minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Moldova, now in the U.S. for the 48th session of the UN General Assembly, had meetings with officials in the State Department and the Security Council of the United States, MOLDOVA PRES reports. The Chisinau chief diplomat had also an interview with S. Talbott, ambassador with special powers of President Clinton in the U.S. relations with the newly independent states. Ambassador Talbott, who had visited Chisinau last summer, reiterated his country's stand of "firm support to the end to the peaceful settlement of the problems in the Eastern part of the Republic of Moldova," the same news agency shows.

Romanian Official Assesses Aid to Chisinau

AU1110175493 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2006 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 8/10/1993—George Savulca, Romanian Secretary of the Inter-Ministry Committee for Relations with Moldova, head of the Direction for Romania's Relations with Moldova of the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, gave an interview to the weekly SAPTAMANA (The Week). According to

him, Romanian aid does not consist of the 20 billion lei credit. It consists of the commitment to deliver monthly 10,000 tons [tonnes] of gasoline, 200,000 tons off Diesel fuel, 500 tons of mineral oils and 100,000 tons of coal. "We were asked to supply 100,000 tons of coal and we can supply this quantity," stated Savulca. "For 1993, Romania has in its budget at the respective fund 6 billion lei. This is not a reimbursable sum or a technical credit or a loan, but an economic and financial assistance granted to develop the relations between Romania and Moldova. It was decided to allocate 2.5 billion of the 6 billion lei, provided by the fund to buy fuel. The second step in the financing of the program of economic assistance is the 20 billion lei loan offered by the Romanian Government for 1993. The conditions of this credit for eight years are: two years it will not be reimbursed and it will be without interest. Moldova can buy the necessary amount of fuel till the end of 1993 and with the 20 billion lei credit," stated Savulca quoted by the weekly.

Snegur Receives Top Executives of Italian-Swiss Concern

AU1310194893 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2105 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 12/10/1993—Today President Mircea Snegur had a meeting with representatives of the Italian-Swiss concern Agind Swissital. The concern wants to set ties with the Moldovan state concern Inmacom, states the presidential press service. Pierro Satori, president of Agind Swissital, said that the concern had much success on East European markets. The concern has created joint ventures in republics of the former USSR. According to Satori, Moldova is of special interest for the concern due to its favorable geographic situation for the export of products on both Western and Eastern markets, as well as the cultural affinities between Italy and Moldova. Moldova's joining of the agreement on the establishment of the CIS Economic Community that will ease the exchange between joint ventures was discussed during the meeting, said Satori. President Snegur said that the creation of a joint bank is needed for accomplishing the projects. The bank could finance the projects with the eventual support of international financial organizations. The possibility to produce construction materials, to set technologies of processing, obtaining agricultural production, technologies of manufacturing agricultural equipment for small farms, and the creation of several joint ventures in light industry were also discussed at the meeting, states the communique of the presidential press service.

Snegur Urges Punishment of Corrupt Officials

LD1210223093 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1942 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Those found guilty of corruption and other economic crimes must be dealt with in a timely and ruthless manner, President Mircea Snegur told a meeting of the Coordinating Council on Combating Crime and Corruption. He succeeded in pushing forward a decision ordering all charges to be dealt with, over the course of a week, by the appropriate bodies, in particular the government and the parliament presidium.

Interfax has found that an ad hoc commission on economic crimes has uncovered numerous cases of corruption in the country's government. In particular, an investigation is underway into the disappearance of millions of dollars the U.S. made available as credits for grain purchases.

Education and Science Ministry officials were found to have taken bribes for sending young men for studies abroad, chiefly to Romania. Numerous export licenses were issued fraudulently by the Foreign Trade Ministry.

Snegur Issues Decree on Culture Ministry Reorganization

AU1110174293 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2006 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 8/10/1993—The presidential decree on reorganization of the Ministry of Culture and Cults is the result of joint actions of the president and church leaders subordinated to the Russian Church, stated to BASA Vlad Cubreacov, head of the former Direction of Cults. President Snegur reorganized on October 4th the Ministry of Culture and Cults and created a State Service for the problem of cults, issuing this decree. In the opinion of Cubreacov, these organizations could intensify the persecution of people within the Moldovan paroches [parishes] subordinated to the Romanian Church. According to him, the priests subordinated to the Russian Church have threatened lately the people of paroches subordinated to the Romanian Church with assault or even with physical extermination. Father Pavel, secretary of the Moldovan Metropolitan Seat, stated to BASA: "We are very happy that our Church finally received what belongs to it."

Early Parliamentary Elections Scheduled for 27 Feb

AU1210162093 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1100 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] The parliament of the Republic of Moldova held a plenary session in Chisinau today after several postponements due to the lack of a statutory quorum. The session was presided over by Mr. Petru Lucinschi, parliament president. Its agenda included the adoption of the law on parliamentary elections, establishing the date of the elections, and discussions on the draft decision on early parliamentary elections, a draft that was worked out by the Parliament Presidium.

This draft decision establishes that early election are scheduled to be held on 27 February 1994 and stipulates that the parliament's powers cease on the date of the elections, while the presidium will continue its activity until the first meeting of the newly elected parliament.

Following discussions and voting procedures, out of 231 possible votes, the draft was adopted with 181 votes in favor.

The proceedings will be resumed in the afternoon, our correspondent to Chisinau, Mircea Dascaliuc, informed us.

Group Appeals to Snegur To Make Tiraspol Release Detainees

AU1310154393 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2105 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS 12/10/1993—A declaration of the Christian Democratic People's Front [FPCD] states that the anti-Constitutional judicial body from Tiraspol continues to implement the plan of extermination of the five political detainees. This declaration was distributed in the night of 11 October. The FPCD addresses all democratic forces, international institutions and foreign diplomatic representations to undertake urgent measures to prevent the assault or illegal imprisonment of political detainees. The FPCD appeals to President Snegur and to the government to apply all possible steps towards the immediate release of Tiraspol regime detainees. "Any delay can lead to dramatic consequences in the fate of the detainees; a tragic end will not let the government continue exercising its functions," remarks the declaration.

Democratic Party Criticizes Government Actions

AU1110175093 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2006 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 8/10/1993—Nobody from the present Moldovan Government had officially denied his communist concepts, argues Valetin Coliban, Coordinator of the Informational Service of the Moldovan Christian Democratic Party in his article published in the weekly GLASUL NATLUNII (Voice of the Nation). According to Coliban, this situation leads to "political decisions not based on judicial or legislative basis." An example of such kind of decision is "furnishing the President of the Republic with the power to conclude the CIS Agreement in spite of the fact that the Parliament voted against the join with CIS. Other examples deal with the rehabilitation of the Communist Party of Moldova in the situation when the democratic force of President Yeltsin fights against the pro-communist and pro-imperial block of Khasbulatov. We can also look at the secret list of 174 people who "forced" President Snegur to sign the CIS Agreement. The CDP representative underlines that "now, when we know what forces control the policy of the Republic it is easy to understand why they began privatization of flats but not of means of production." Coliban said that people who became owners of agricultural equipment "could obtain agricultural, industrial and technical products and other goods at the level of international standards" if they strive to sell their production not to Russia but to Western countries for dollars. Privatization of flats "aims on splitting the society and making different levels of society, from cities to villages, fight," concludes the author.

Deputies Discuss Election Bill on Proportional System

LD1310223993 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2046 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] The Moldovan parliament discussed Wednesday an election bill which provides for voting by the proportional system, or by party lists.

Every MP [member of parliament] would represent about 30,000 electors.

Heated discussion has been underway on articles that define the categories of citizens having a right to vote and to nominate themselves as well as on the minimal number of votes which would enable a party to be represented in the new parliament.

Agrarian Party deputies want to set this limit at 5 percent while opposition parties insist on reducing it to 3 percent of the votes.

Local observers believe that another deadlock may occur in parliament. In this case parliament will unlikely be able to adopt an election act and make the necessary changes in the Constitution and the elections will be held under legislation dating back to the Soviet era.

INTERFAX earlier reported that early elections have been called for February 27, 1994.

Energy Prices To Increase by 250 Percent

AU1310194593 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2105 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 12/10/1993—The department for energy resources will propose to introduce new tariffs for electric energy, which will be 2.5 times higher than the present ones beginning with November 1, state sources from the department. The increase is caused by the bankruptcy of the branch. The consumers' debt towards suppliers of electric energy totals 21 billion rubles. Although the new prices are still being discussed, local experts note that the previous proposals of the department were all approved by the government. The present tariff for one kilowatt/hour is 20 rubles. According to the proposal, city consumers will have to pay 50 rubles for 1 kilowatt/hour, while industrial units 95 rubles. According to the statistics, that price has increased 675 times over the past two years. Nowadays, a lot of consumers cannot pay the bills for electric energy because of the rapid increase in its price. According to sources from the Ministry of Finance, 31 percent of the energy produced is paid on the basis of preferential tariffs. The department for energy resources forecasts that in 1994 the balance in payments made to suppliers of fuel for power stations will be negative and amount to 325 billion rubles. This sum will be partially covered by the new increases in tariffs.

Armenia

First Deputy Foreign Minister Receives UK's Hogg

NC1110202193 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1800 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Armenian First Deputy Foreign Minister Zhirair Liparityan received today British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Douglas Hogg and British Ambassador to Russia and Armenia Brian Fall.

The three men discussed the talks now being held on the Nagorno- Karabakh problem within the CSCE's Minsk Group framework and on problems being handled at those talks. Those problems include deciding on urgent measures to implement UN Resolutions 822 and 823, the definition of the term conflict zone, the extension and the (?consolidation) of the cease-fire, removing the blockade of Armenia's communications routes, and the schedule for the withdrawal of Karabakh Armed Forces from Azerbaijani territory.

The Foreign Ministry Press Service reported that Britain was specifically interested in the stationing of observers and peacekeeping forces in the region.

Areas of the Armenian economy in which productive British investments could be made were determined during the examination of bilateral relations.

Ter-Petrosyan, Hogg Discuss Fighting

LD1210190993 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1424 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan and British Minister for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Douglas Hogg on Monday met in Yerevan, Armenia. They discussed the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict.

The presidential press service told Interfax that Ter-Petrosyan and Hogg agreed that the peace efforts of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) should be combined with Russia's mediatory mission.

The same day, at a meeting with Armenian Deputy Foreign Minister Zhirair Liparitiyan, Hogg discussed the results of recent talks on Nagorno-Karabakh held within the CSCE framework in Paris. The British minister paid special attention to plans to post international observers in the region.

Hogg, who has already visited Georgia, was due to arrive in the Azerbaijani capital, Baku, on Tuesday afternoon.

Russian Mediation Stops Fighting in Karabakh

NC1110194093 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1800 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Nagorno-Karabakh Republic Press and Information Service has reported that Azerbaijani Army subunits violated the cease-fire agreement on 10 October and launched an attack on the southern sector of the Karabakh battlefront. The Karabakh side was forced to launch counteroperations. Both sides suffered losses.

The military operations were stopped in the afternoon of the same day with Russian mediation.

Peace prevailed on Karabakh battlefronts today.

Presidential Spokesman Briefs Journalists on Moscow Talks

MK1310143093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 3

[Armen Khanbabyan report: "Meeting in Moscow Does Not Bring Expected Results. 'Old' Rubles Heighten Social Tensions"]

[Text] Judging from the news briefing held by Armenian Presidential Press Secretary Aram Abramyan, Yerevan officials are far from inclined to overestimate the importance of the quadrilateral meeting held in Moscow among the heads of the Caucasus states and Russia. Abramyan cautioned journalists against excessive optimism, stressing that no documents had been signed and for all its usefulness, the summit was only the beginning of a complex process of searching for a new mode of relationships among the region's countries. The press secretary made special note of the fact that the main question today for Armenia is that of transportation lines. While agreeing that it is necessary in the future to establish joint control over the movement of freight, the sides so far reached no specific agreements in this matter. In Abramyan's opinion, this attests to the fact that the blockade still remains an effective factor in regional policy. For example, Azerbaijan declined to examine the possibility of opening the railroad despite the fact that the Karabakh side declared on two occasions in September that in this case the self-defense forces of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic would depart from the earlier occupied areas of Azerbaijan. In Abramyan's opinion, this stance on the part of Baku attests to its unreadiness for a serious compromise. "The future status of Karabakh need not be discussed today," Abramyan declared. "Such a discussion in the future is undoubtedly unavoidable, but it should be conducted only after the unblocking of the roads and a truce ensuring the safety of the civilian population become a reality."

The president's press secretary also spoke about government efforts to prepare the republic for winter. A large Armenian delegation is soon to visit the Iranian city of Tabriz where problems of fuel supplies for Armenia will be discussed. Judging from previous understandings,

Iran will not only offer fuel oil to the republic, but will also permit carrying fuel bought in Russia across its territory.

All this, however, will hardly have a serious impact on the sharp growth of social tensions in Armenia. The already existing problems have worsened owing to the fact that the republic became subjected at the end of last week to an influx of old Soviet rubles from Central Asia. More than 200 billion old rubles were brought to Armenia in the space of two to three days, according to unofficial information. This raised the prices of all food and essential goods three or four times over. Today a kilo of butter is priced at 7,000 rubles, a kilo of granulated sugar—nearly 3,000 rubles, and a liter of gasoline—3,000 rubles. At the same time, the minimum pay is slightly more than 7,000 rubles. In addition, many trading outlets refuse to accept old rubles and demand new ones which the population does not yet have. Considering the explosiveness of the situation, parliament hastened to include on the agenda the question "on the situation that has taken shape in the sphere of commodity and money turnover" and it intends to hold a closed-door session today devoted to this problem. The cabinet and Prime Minister Grant Bagratyan are in for an uneasy discussion with parliamentarians, many of whom are inclined to demand the resignation of the Council of Ministers.

Ter-Petrosyan Meets Special CSCE Delegation

LD1010164293 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1530 GMT 10 Oct 93

[Text] President of Armenia Levon Ter-Petrosyan has met a delegation from the CSCE that arrived on Saturday [9 October] in Yerevan from Baku, and is seeking a new timetable for the CSCE-sponsored peace settlement in Karabakh.

The peace plan envisages withdrawal by Karabakh Armed Forces from the Kelibadzharskiy, Kubatlinskiy, Fizulinskiy, Agdamskiy, and Dzhebrailskiy rayons of Azerbaijan, and also withdrawal by Azerbaijani armed units from the Mardakertskiy rayon of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic.

Delegation Ends Visit to Karabakh

NC1310185393 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1300 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] The situation continues to remain unchanged in the Karabakh-Azerbaijan conflict zone. Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] Press and Information Department cited the Defense Army headquarters as reporting that relative calm is prevailing on all the war fronts. The sides are basically observing the cease-fire agreement extended until 5 November.

A delegation lead by Matias Mosberg, personal representative of the Swedish foreign minister who is the chairman of the CSCE, visited Stepanakert on 12 October and met with Chairman of the NKR Supreme Council Karen Baburyan, Chairman of the State Defense Committee Robert Kocharyan, Foreign Minister Arkadiy Gugasyan, the leadership of the Defense Army, and other officials.

The delegation also visited a number of industrial cities and other settlements.

During the official talks, the Karabakh side once again emphasized the consistency in the policy of the Karabakh leaders in the solution of the conflict. Efforts of the CSCE member countries, in particular that of Russia, for the establishment of a stable peace in the region were singled out. The Karabakh side informed the delegation of the official view concerning the main principles for the solution of the problem and presented its objections to the schedule on urgent measures.

The delegation headed by Matias Mosberg left Stepanakert this afternoon.

Official Disputes Azerbaijani Objections to CSCE Plan

NC1310191093 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1800 GMT 10 Oct 93

[Report by Lida Gazaryan from a news conference by Aram Safaryan, press secretary of the Armenian Foreign Ministry, in Yerevan on 12 October—recorded]

[Text] [Gazaryan] In drawing the reporters' attention to a number of problems being tackled by the Foreign Ministry, Aram Safaryan first of all spoke about the diplomatic activity on the Karabakh problem. He specifically noted that a delegation headed by Ambassador Matias Mosberg, who is a personal representative of the Swedish Foreign Ministry, is at present visiting the region. The representatives from the embassies of a number of countries and Luga [surname indistinct], the adviser to the Italian Foreign Ministry and a personal representative of the chairman of the CSCE's Minsk Group Senator Mario Raffaelli, are also part of the delegation.

The delegation arrived in Yerevan from Baku and presented to our Republic's leadership a document that included eight objections that the Azerbaijani leadership expressed against the schedule adopted during the latest informal talks in Paris.

As is known, the Armenian Republic gave its approval to the schedule on time expecting a similar move from Azerbaijan and Nagorno-Karabakh. Azerbaijan has rejected it orally but has not done so officially. That is why Karabakh's reply is late in coming.

The members of the delegation informed the Armenian side that they had asked Azerbaijani leaders not to reject but to advance constructive evaluation of the plan and offered to postpone the deadline for the reply until 14 October. For that reason, and after talks in our Foreign

Ministry, the delegation has again returned to Baku to convey Armenia's evaluations of the eight rejected proposals.

In speaking about these proposals and Armenia's position, Mr. Safaryan said:

[Safaryan] The fundamental difference that exists between our evaluations, as became clear during the (?consultations), is that the Azerbaijani leadership believes that the latest schedule proposed in Paris is discordant with the spirit of UN Resolution 853. The Azerbaijanis are insisting that the Armenian armed formations must withdraw from Azerbaijan's occupied territories without any conditions, as is demanded by Resolution 853. Our approach is that UN Resolution 853, as well as Resolution 822, is a single integrated document and it is impossible to detach any one sentence from the overall concept in that document and then consider that sentence the most important one.

Therefore, we think that the schedule adopted in Paris conforms in spirit with the principled documents adopted by the UN Security Council and emanates from those documents.

[Gazaryan] In commenting on some press reports that the Foreign Ministry officials are negotiating on documents in which Karabakh appears to be an inalienable part of Azerbaijan, Mr. Safaryan resolutely rejected such reports and formally declared that the latest document adopted at the CSCE in connection with such an assessments was in February and March of 1992 when the CSCE was formulating a general concept on the Karabakh conflict. Over the past year since then Foreign Ministry officials have not participated in the drafting of such a document and will not sign any document in which such a formulation exists.

Finally, Aram Safaryan briefed reporters on the current and prospective developments.

Azerbaijan Shells Karabakh Border Regions

NC0810212793 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 2000 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] The Nagorno-Karabakh Republic Press and Information Department reported that relative calm is prevailing on Karabakh battle fronts. The conflicting sides are basically observing the cease-fire agreement.

The Azerbaijani armed formations again violated the cease-fire agreement along the (?Krasnoselskiy-Noyemberyanskiy) border sector. The defensive positions near Aygepar in Tavushskiy Rayon was shelled yesterday evening with grenades and howitzers from the military bases in Alibeyli. At around the same time, the armed formations in Kazakhskiy Rayon launched a bandit attack on the shepherds near Vaganis in Noyemberyanskiy Rayon and opened automatic gunfire. There are dead and injured among the (?residents) of Tavushskiy Rayon. The Armenian fighters were forced to retaliate.

The border (?positions) in Kapanskiy Rayon came under howitzer shelling yesterday from Kubatlinskiy Rayon. The Armenian side refrained from retaliating. There are no injuries on our side.

The Armenian Defense Ministry press service reported that it has been calm on the border since last night.

Further on Cease-Fire Violations

NC0910115193 Yerevan SNARK in English 1017 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Stepanakert, October 9 (SNARK)—The Azerbaijani party to the Karabakh conflict [is] violating the temporary cease-fire agreement fired by submachine guns and grenades [against] the positions of the Karabakh army eastern Karabakh front line this night and yesterday, the Karabakh press and information department reported to SNARK. The Karabakh side has not fired in return. According to the department's information, there is no serious consequences.

At the same time, according to intelligences services information, there are movement of Azerbaijani troops and pile-up of military hardware at the eastern part of the conflict zone. The term of the agreement on armistice between Azerbaijan and Karabakh will be ended on the 5th of November.

'Pitched Battle' Reported in Nagorno-Karabakh

LD1210124193 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1135 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Azerbaijani forces broke into a large scale offensive in the south of the Gadrut District of Nagorno Karabakh, informed sources in Yerevan quote Manvel Sarkisian, Karabakh's official in the Armenian capital.

A pitched battle has been continuing there since Tuesday morning [12 October]. Sarkisian says it was Azerbaijan that violated the ceasefire which was to hold until early November.

Meanwhile, the Azerbaijan Defense Ministry accuses Armenian troops of violating the ceasefire and says that they have been trying to move to the Iranian border and cut the Zangelan-Goradis road in the Jebrail District south of Karabakh.

According to the ministry, on October 12 Armenian forces started shelling Azerbaijani positions in the vicinity of the village of Sheibei from the village of Kuijak they had captured earlier.

Tension Continues Along Borders

NC1110185193 Yerevan Radio Yerevan in Azeri 1430 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Dear listeners, we now present a report on the latest situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] and on the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

International organizations and individual establishments are making a strenuous effort to contribute toward the solution of the Karabakh problem. Regrettably, serious progress has not been achieved so far. The only progress that has been made is the temporary cease-fire agreement between Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan.

Russian officials have recently intensified their mediation effort between the disputing sides. That is confirmed by the meeting that was recently held in Moscow by President Boris Yeltsin and the leaders of the republics in the Transcaucasus. As expected, the participants discussed the situation in Georgia and on the NKR front lines. Although the meeting participants agreed that bloodshed has to be halted and the existing problems and disputes have to be resolved through talks, they have failed to present concrete proposals. Nevertheless, we hope that the talks will continue and that a way will be found to improve the situation.

The situation in the NKR's front lines is relatively peaceful at the present time. However, tension is continuing because of the provocative activities carried out by Azerbaijan's military forces from time to time.

Let us immediately note that the NKR defense forces have refrained from retaliating against the enemy's provocative activities. For example, Azerbaijan's military units fired on the Armenian defense positions in Mardakertskiy Rayon with various types of arms on the night of 7 October and early the next day. Authorities are trying to determine the number of casualties. The Armenian forces refrained from retaliating.

According to the NKR's military forces, Azerbaijan is massing reinforcements and military equipment close to (Yernark) in Mardakertskiy Rayon.

All this indicates that Azerbaijan's leaders have not abandoned their effort to resolve the problem through the use of force. It seems that several military units in the neighboring republic have not agreed to serve under Azerbaijan's leaders and have carried out provocative activities to further worsen the tense situation.

Regrettably, the situation on the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan has deteriorated once again. Azerbaijan's military forces have fired on several residential areas on Armenia's border with various types of arms for no reason. The Armenian Ministry of Defense Information Service has disclosed that the cease-fire agreement was violated in the Noyemberyanskiy and Krasnoselskiy sectors of the front lines on the night of 7 October. The defense positions in Aygepar in Tavushskiy Rayon were fired on with mortars and grenade launchers. Azerbaijan's military units in Kazakhskiy Rayon attacked the shepherds in Baganis in Noyemberyanskiy Rayon like bandits at the same time. They fired on the shepherds with automatic firearms. Several people were killed or wounded in the border areas in Tavushskiy and Noyemberyanskiy Rayons. The Armenian forces were compelled to launch retaliatory operations.

The situation on Kapanskiy Rayon's border has also deteriorated. The Armenian defense positions in that rayon were fired on from Azerbaijan's Kubatlinskiy Rayon with mortars on the same day. The Armenian units did not retaliate.

How can Azerbaijan's behavior be explained? The observers, politicians, and commentators believe that it is Azerbaijan's reaction to the positive approach Armenia and the NKR has adopted on the latest CSCE Minsk Group's calendar. Azerbaijan has not agreed to the new calendar. The neighboring republic is convinced that the NKR has been favored. Obviously, Azerbaijan is trying to get unilateral concessions. Of course, that is unacceptable to NKR leaders. The sides must make mutual concessions for the peaceful settlement of the problem.

Fighting in Karabakh Reportedly Intensifying

NC1210153393 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1400 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Having violated the cease-fire agreement, which was extended until 5 November, the Azerbaijani armed formations have again aggravated the situation along the Karabakh-Azerbaijan conflict zone.

The Nagorno-Karabakh Republic Press and Information Department cited Defense Army headquarters as reporting that Azerbaijani Army subunits, supported by armored cars, launched an attack against the Karabakh Army's positions in the southern sector of the front at 0600 on 12 October.

According to preliminary reports, the fighting is intensifying.

The Karabakh defenders stopped the incessant attacks of the enemy and forced them back to their original positions.

There is no information on casualties.

Our efforts to obtain information on the situation in Armenia's border regions so far have been futile.

Combat Operations Detailed

NC1310203993 Yerevan Radio Yerevan in Azeri 1430 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, we now present a report on the latest situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] and the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

The situation in the NKR's front lines has been relatively peaceful for some time now. The cease-fire agreement Azerbaijan and NKR reached in the talks they held some time ago ended the exchanges of fire in that region. It is common knowledge that the two sides have agreed to extend the cease-fire until 5 November. [passage omitted]

Regrettably, the combat operations were resumed on 12 October. Azerbaijan's military units tried to attack Kurchag and (Chaparsha) from Dzhebrailskiy Rayon. The NKR Defense Headquarters has disclosed that the attacking forces used two tanks and many armored vehicles in their onslaught. The two sides suffered many casualties in the violent clashes, which continued all day. The NKR defense units not only obstructed the enemy's wide-scale attacks but also destroyed Azerbaijan's military positions in [name indistinct] in Dzhebrailskiy Rayon and (Nuzger) in Fizulinskiy Rayon. The Armenian forces also destroyed many of the enemy's armored vehicles.

Yes, the situation has deteriorated in the NKR's front lines once again. Tension has also escalated in the NKR's Shaumyanovskiy Rayon. The Armenian partisan groups have destroyed a bus and [word indistinct] in that rayon. Several enemy troops were in the bus. Shaumyanovskiy Rayon's citizens have not accepted the occupation of their homeland by Azerbaijan's usurpationist army. They have vowed to maintain their struggle until the last drop of their blood is shed. [passage omitted]

Azerbaijan's leaders have demanded the unconditional withdrawal of the Armenian forces from the territories they have occupied. However, it seems that they do not wish to make any concession themselves on that matter. That is an obstacle to the effort being made to resolve the dispute. An objective approach has to be adopted for the settlement of the existing problems and disputes. Depriving the Armenians of their right to live on their historic lands for the sake of maintaining Azerbaijan's territorial integrity is a gross violation of human rights. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, a serious incident has not occurred on the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan during the past day. However, tension has continued to prevail in the region.

Azerbaijan

U.S. Diplomat Sets Conditions for U.S. Aid

LD1310222693 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1540 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Sevindzh Abdullayeva and Viktor Shulman]

[Text] Baku, 13 Oct—The United States is far from indifferent about the direction of Azerbaijan's development now that the new leadership has come to power. This was stated by Thomas Simons, coordinator of U.S. aid to the CIS and Eastern Europe countries, who arrived in Baku this afternoon. In an exclusive interview to an ITAR-TASS correspondent he said that the main aim of his visit to the republic was to study this question.

The U.S. diplomat said that Azerbaijan President Geydar Aliyev had convinced him that the republic intended to follow the path of democratic reform in all spheres, including the economic sphere, and in the area of protecting human rights.

Touching on questions of granting U.S. aid to Azerbaijan, Thomas Simons noted with regret that the U.S. Congress had not yet been persuaded to lift the embargo on humanitarian supplies to the republic. "Therefore, we are actively striving to move forward the peacemaking process aimed at settling the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh," the diplomat stressed. He considers that one important aspect is lifting the blockade of transport arteries and communications, and completely halting combat actions in the region. It was noted that if this was done, the question of humanitarian aid to Azerbaijan at government level and of moving on to more serious, and in particular, technological, aid could be resolved.

Further on Aid, Blockade

NC1410070293 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev today received Thomas Simons, the new U.S. coordinator on aid to the CIS.

President Geydar Aliyev assessed Thomas Simons' visit to Azerbaijan as a new opportunity for developing bilateral relations. He expressed thanks for President Clinton's letter of congratulations. He then said we are resolved to establish a democratic state in Azerbaijan and if the United States helps our Republic on this arduous road, it could only benefit the common endeavor, but difficulties are arising because the U.S. Congress has imposed an embargo on aid to Azerbaijan.

Thomas Simons said aid to Azerbaijan depends on the blockade of Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh being lifted and on a lasting cease-fire in the region.

The Azerbaijani president expressed the Republic's official position on the issue.

[Begin recording] [Aliyev] Attacks on our Republic's territory continue. Much of Azerbaijan's territory around Nagorno-Karabakh has been occupied by the Armenian armed formations. When the embargo was imposed on Azerbaijan in America, the pretext was that this decision was allegedly connected with protecting the rights of the ethnic minorities in Azerbaijan, but as you know, not one Azerbaijani has remained in Nagorno-Karabakh. The Azerbaijanis have been displaced from their own property over a large area throughout the rayons next to Nagorno-Karabakh. You must conclude which side is trampling upon or violating the rights of which side. We don't see the U.S. Congress as a conservative institution but rather as a state institution with a realistic view of life. So, once the situation changes, the adopted decisions too should automatically change.

As for the issue of peace, you know we have now undertaken an initiative to solve the problem peacefully;

you can see that we have taken an initiative for a cease-fire and want to continue along this road. Despite the Armenian Armed Forces violating the cease-fire in recent days, we still favor continuing the cease-fire and enhancing the peace process. We will be grateful if you can help us in this direction. [end recording]

Various aspects of bilateral relations were broached during the meeting. The U.S. Ambassador to Azerbaijan Richard Miles, Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Gasan Gasanov, Vafa Gulizade, the state secretary on foreign policy affairs, and other officials took part in the meeting.

Armenia's Ter-Petrosyan Sends Congratulations to Aliyev

LD1410100693 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 0300 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] These days, telegrams of congratulations for our president are arriving from distinguished social and political figures and heads of states and governments. Esteemed listeners, these sincere telegrams are innumerable. Telegrams of sincerity are arriving from Japan, Greece, America, Syria, Mongolia, the former USSR and autonomous republics. I would especially like to present the telegram from Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan to our listeners:

To His Excellency Geydar Aliyev, president of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Honorable Geydar Aliyev, I congratulate you on your being elected president of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In this connection, I sincerely believe that in the near future the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh will be solved through you and good neighborly relations and mutually beneficial cooperation will once again be established between the people of Azerbaijan and Armenia.

We would like to remind His Excellency Levon Ter-Petrosyan that President Aliyev does not like illogical talk or insincerity and does not forgive it at all. We hope that this telegram from the Armenian president will be distinguished from his previous promises by its sincerity.

Defense Ministry Says Armenia Launches Attack in Jebrail

LD1110155293 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1405 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] After 20 minutes of artillery preparation, Armenian units launched an offensive in the direction of Safarsha and Guijak villages in Jebrail District of Azerbaijan which adjoins Nagorno-Karabakh. Interfax learned this from the Azeri mission in Moscow which cited the Defense Ministry in Baku. Fighting is taking place in Jebrail District.

In the meantime well-informed sources in Yerevan said that the situation in the Armenian-Azeri conflict zone remains stable. The warring sides are observing the truce.

Further on Armenian Cease-Fire Violations

LD1110155493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1537 GMT 11 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents]

[Text] Baku October 11 TASS—"During the last two days the Armenian side did not stop provocative attempts to disrupt the ceasefire agreement", the Defence Ministry of Azerbaijan said on Monday.

It informed that villages of the Zangelan, Kubatly and Ter-Terek regions of Azerbaijan, situated outside Nagorno-Karabakh, came under missile-artillery fire.

The most tense situation has taken shape in Jebrail region where Armenian units, supported by armour, seized a settlement situated eight kilometres away from the Iranian border. Armenians sustained losses in the offensive, according to the ministry, which added that the attacks endanger refugees staying not far from the settlement.

Azerbaijan and Nagorno-Karabakh had agreed to prolong the ceasefire up to November 5.

Russia Offers Mediation in Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict

LD1110201493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1750 GMT 11 Oct 93

[By AZERTAC correspondent Alla Baula and ITAR-TASS correspondent Viktor Shulman]

[Text] Baku October 11 TASS—Russia wants to help mediate a peaceful settlement of the conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh, according to First Deputy Foreign Minister Anatoliy Adamishin.

At a meeting with President of Azerbaijan Geydar Aliyev on Monday [11 October] he praised his efforts to resolve the Karabakh conflict peacefully and stressed that "Russia would do everything to act as an honest mediator in the settlement".

Adamishin delivered a personal message from President Boris Yeltsin to Aliyev congratulating him on becoming president of Azerbaijan.

The Russian envoy hailed the big role played by Aliyev in the development of Russian-azeri relations.

Both the president and the Russian diplomat highly appreciated the results of the Friday meeting of the leaders of Russia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia in Moscow as laying the basis for the improvement of the situation in the Caucasus.

The Russian diplomat in convinced that the bilateral cooperation of the two states will not hamper each others sovereignty and independence.

Russian Envoy Says Peace Prospects 'Good Enough'

LD1110203893 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1636 GMT 11 Oct 93

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[Text] The prospects for a settlement in Nagorno-Karabakh are "good enough," since during their conflict Armenia and Azerbaijan "overstrained themselves enormously." This statement was made in an interview with Interfax by a special envoy of President Yeltsin, Vladimir Kazimirov, who leads Russia's mediatory mission designed to settle the Armenian-Azerbaijan conflict.

According to him, "Armenia has no need for another winter under blockade, and Azerbaijan can no longer put up with the suffering of thousands of refugees." "Therefore it is obvious that the two sides are interested in ending military actions before the winter sets in," the diplomat said.

With reference to the peace-making efforts of Russia Kazimirov said that lately Moscow engaged in "minor but absolutely indispensable practical affairs." He singled out the agreement to cease fire reached between Azerbaijan and Nagorno-Karabakh and extended several times. "The latest agreement to extend the truce until November 5 is reassuring, since it is the first time the ceasefire has been prolonged for a month, not for a week."

Besides, Kazimirov pointed to the role Russia played in organizing "direct contacts" between the warring sides. "Such contacts are an important instrument for overcoming mutual distrust, which at the moment is a major obstacle on the road to settlement," he said.

According to Interfax's interviewee, Russia's involvement in the work of the CSCE Minsk Group for Nagorno-Karabakh is also important. "In the work on a schedule for settlement in the framework of that group Russia has focused on the efforts to achieve a stable ceasefire not only between Azerbaijan and Nagorno-Karabakh, but also on the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan," he said.

With reference to Nagorno-Karabakh's endeavors to be recognized as "an equitable participant in the conflict," Kazimirov said: "Russia has long been seeing two military camps and three warring sides in this conflict. This is a realistic and the only possible approach, even though some parties concerned are displeased with it. We cannot proceed from some propagandistic scheme".

UK's Douglas Hogg Meets President Aliyev

LD1210222493 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1553 GMT 12 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Sevinj Abdullayev and Viktor Shulman]

[Text] Baku, 12 Oct—A wish to broaden and deepen the ties between Azerbaijan and Great Britain was expressed by President Geydar Aliyev of Azerbaijan and Douglas Hogg, minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, who arrived today in Baku.

The sides expressed the mutual hope that the current talks would assist the development of bilateral contacts. In Hogg's view, this depends primarily on stability and security in the region, on a quick settlement of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Meets Gasanov

NC1210201393 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Douglas Hogg arrived in Azerbaijan today.

[Begin recording] [Off-screen reporter] Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Gasan Gasanov, British Ambassador to Azerbaijan Thomas Young, and other officials welcomed Douglas Hogg and his delegation, which is paying an official visit to Azerbaijan.

The minister's parliamentary secretary [name indistinct] and British Ambassador to Moscow Brian Fall were also in the delegation.

Douglas Hogg explained the reason for his visit:

[Hogg, in English with superimposed translation into Azeri] This is my second visit to Azerbaijan. My first visit was in March 1993. The purpose for my current visit is to strengthen relations between Azerbaijan and Great Britain, and to consolidate trade and economic ties and examine the operations of the British oil companies in Azerbaijan. We are also interested in Azerbaijan's position on the developments in Russia and the long-standing Karabakh conflict. [end recording]

Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev received the British delegation headed by Douglas Hogg that arrived in Azerbaijan as part of its visit to the Transcaucasian region.

In warmly welcoming the guests, Aliyev expressed appreciation for British Prime Minister John Major's congratulatory message on his election as president of Azerbaijan. The Azerbaijani president said that the relations will continue to develop between the two states.

In congratulating Geydar Aliyev, Douglas Hogg conveyed a personal greeting from John Major. He noted that Britain attaches special importance to bilateral relations and that interest in Azerbaijan is great. The operations of BP-Stat Oil in Azerbaijan are highly valued.

The guest then requested that Geydar Aliyev comment on Azerbaijan's position towards the developments in

Russia, Azerbaijan's entrance into CIS, the effect of Azerbaijani-Turkish relations on other countries, and other subjects.

Matters pertaining to Azerbaijani-Armenian relations were also discussed during the meeting.

Foreign Minister Gasan Gasanov was also present at the meeting.

Gasanov also received Douglas Hogg today. Two documents to be signed by the two sides—a protocol on free movement between Azerbaijan and Great Britain, and the joint statement by the foreign ministries of Azerbaijan and Great Britain—were discussed during the meeting.

Views Role in Karabakh Settlement

LD1210215193 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1913 GMT 12 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents]

[Text] Baku October 12 TASS—Great Britain looks for its own possibilities to settle the conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh, according to Douglas Hogg, visiting British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs [title as received].

Great Britain views the enclave as an integral part of Azerbaijan and is sure that its status cannot be changed by force, he told reporters on Tuesday [12 October].

The status of Nagorno-Karabakh can be changed only upon agreement of all interested parties and first and foremost of Azerbaijan, Hogg said, adding that such a position meets the principles of the CSCE and the international law.

The enclave may become an autonomy within Azerbaijan and the rights of Armenians and Azeris there should be reliably guaranteed, he proposed.

Foreign Minister of Azerbaijan Gasan Gasanov said it had been agreed to hold regular consultations with Great Britain which he said "plays a leading role in world politics".

He stressed that Azerbaijan guarantees protection to foreign investments and will create the necessary conditions to attract foreign businesses to the republic.

It was also announced that president of Azerbaijan will visit Great Britain in the near future.

Gasanov and Hogg signed a memorandum on unlimited freedom of travel of citizens of both countries and a declaration on relations between the Foreign Ministries.

Leaders View Relations

NC1310154393 Baku TURAN in English 1032 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Baku, (October 13) TURAN—Yesterday evening a joint briefing of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the UK Douglas Hogg and Azerbaijan Gasan Gasanov took place in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan.

Before the briefing the parties signed a convention on unvisa [as received] regime between the two countries.

Appealing to the journalists, Douglas Hogg said, that one can consider the results of his visit to Baku and of the talks with G. Aliyev to be very useful. He also said, that he has invited G. Aliyev to an official visit to the UK.

Douglas Hogg stressed, that the position of London towards Nagorno-Karabakh remains unchanged. We still consider Nagorno- Karabakh to be the part of Azerbaijan, and its status can be changed only by an agreement between all the parties concerned, he said.

Touching upon the ways of the peaceful resolving of the problem, Hogg said, that the West understands the possibility of the return of the Russian troops to this region. Together with this, the peacemaking units of the West could join them, D. Hogg said.

In his turn, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan Gasan Gasanov said, that the talks about the return of the Russian troops to Azerbaijan are yet untimely. Commenting on the CSCE's last schedule of urgent measures, G. Gasanov said, that it has a number of serious defects and can't be accepted without a notable correction.

Answering the question of TURAN's reporter, if this visit shortened the time for signing a contract between the State Oil Company and BP, Douglas Hogg said, that he hopes, his visit and talks with G. Aliyev will promote this. Answering the question on the terms of G. Aliyev's visit to the UK, D. Hogg said, that Baku and London will continue consultations and will define the terms, more convenient for both parties.

Further on Bilateral Relations

LD1310211093 Baku Radio Baku International Service in English 1700 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] President Geydar Aliyev has met with the minister of state of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Mr. Douglas Hogg.

Both sides displayed a desire to expand and deepen mutually advantageous relations between the two countries. Having thanked Mr. Hogg for the telegram of congratulations sent by the Prime Minster of Great Britain, John Major, on his being elected president, Mr. Aliyev particularly pointed out that it was his first high level reception since taking office. He expressed his hope that Mr. Hogg's visit to this republic will promote close

relations between the two countries and the development of bilateral contacts between them.

The high ranking guest expressed his hope that the relations between Great Britain and Azerbaijan will further develop. The diplomat thanked President Aliyev for having found time to receive the executives of British Petroleum, a company which is interested in developing the oil deposits struck by Azerbaijanian specialists on the shelf of the Caspian.

In Mr. Douglas Hogg's opinion the development of bilateral contacts depends in the first place on the stability of (?the situation) in the region. In this connection he stressed the significance of settling the Armenian-Azerbaijanian conflict as soon as possible. The British minister was also interested in Geydar Aliyev's opinion about the events taking place in Russia as well as what importance he attaches to Azerbaijan's joining the CIS.

Karabakh Delays Reply to New CSCE Plan

LD0910000193 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1755 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Karabakh is delaying on making a reply to the new plan of urgent measures, worked out by the Minsk-based CSCE group to settle the conflict in the region. This was told to an Interfax interviewer by Manvel Sarkisyan, the ambassador of the self- proclaimed Karabakh republic to Armenia.

He explained the delay by the fact that the UN Security Council on Friday began to debate the CSCE request to pass a new resolution on Karabakh. He quoted Karabakh officials as saying that a number of points in the document "are not conducive for a settlement in the region."

He noted that according to his information, Azerbaijan also disapproves of the resolution, since two resolutions had already been adopted.

Armenia welcomes the new initiative. The CSCE plan provides for withdrawing Karabakh troops from the captured areas in Azerbaijan, pulling Azerbaijani forces out of the Mardakert area in Nagorno- Karabakh, lifting the siege of all roads and posting international observers in the zone of hostilities. The plan is to take effect as of the end of October.

CSCE Delegation's Visit Viewed

NC1110061693 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 10 Oct 93

[Text] The esteemed CSCE delegation which is visiting Baku has acquainted itself mainly with the political, social, and military situation related to the refugees in the republic. [Name indistinct], representative of the current CSCE chairman, is heading the delegation. He has been appointed as the CSCE chairman's special representative to the disputed region. The representatives of Turkey, Russia, Italy, Germany, and the United States are among the members of the delegation.

The members of the delegation have held talks with the republic's deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and defense minister. They have also met with the leaders of the Azerbaijani community in Daghlyk Karabakh. The delegation is expected to visit the disputed region and hold talks with the Armenian community in Khankendi [Stepanakert] and then visit Yerevan to hold talks with Armenia's leaders.

Mahmud al-Sa'id, the UN representative in Azerbaijan, is accompanying the CSCE delegation.

Aliyev Meets CSCE Representative

LD1110134493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1225 GMT 11 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Sevindzh Abdullayeva and Viktor Shulman]

[Text] Baku, October 11 (TASS) - Azeri President Geydar Aliyev has met Matias Mosberg, a personal representative of the CSCE chairman and leader of the CSCE delegation which arrived in Azerbaijan for consultations with Azeri leaders, on Monday. During the talks the sides discussed ways of the settlement of the Azeri-Armenian conflict.

According to Mosberg, at present, conditions for signing a peace agreement between the warring sides, envisaging the liberation of occupied territories, the restoration of communications and holding the Minsk conference on Nagorno-Karabakh are as good as ever.

It was pointed out that the CSCE itself cannot resolve the conflict or impose its solution in the sides. The leader of the CSCE delegation said that the CSCE can only bring the positions of the warring sides closer together and help carry on a dialogue, ensure control over a ceasefire by dispatching international observers to the zone of the conflict.

The CSCE diplomat is convinced that it is necessary to find a solution acceptable to all. At present, the most important thing is to launch the process of peaceful settlement, the basis for which has been recently created by the "nine" countries - members of the Minsk group.

For his part, Aliyev pointed out Azerbaijan's adherence to the principles of peaceful, political settlement of the conflict, saying that the fundamental principles for the solution should be the liberation of occupied territories, preservation of territorial integrity and the inviolability of borders.

"We cannot and will not depart from these principles," the Azeri president pointed out.

Aliyev declared that Azerbaijan was prepared to create more favourable conditions for the advance towards peace without infringing on Azeri national interests. Aliyev drew the attention of the CSCE delegation to the fact that "all previous initiatives put forward in this direction had been rejected by the Armenian side." In

this connection Aliyev pointed out that the "CSCE should assess the situation more objectively and look for ways of a more just solution of the Karabakh problem."

"We are not rejecting a new schedule of urgent measures for the settlement of the conflict, suggested by the 'nine' countries during a recent meeting in Paris, but we are surprised at CSCE hasty steps, seeking to convene the Minsk conference as soon as possible in the absence of conditions for the final peaceful settlement of the conflict," the Azeri president said.

CSCE Sets New Deadline for Warring Parties

LD1210214793 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1757 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] The CSCE has set a new deadline of 12:00 on October 14 by which the warring parties in the Armenian-Azeri conflict are expected to say Yes or No to a new CSCE-proposed peace plan for the region, press secretary of the Armenian foreign ministry Aram Safarian told reporters in Yerevan on Tuesday [12 October].

Armenia had already accepted the plan which provides for the withdrawal of Armenian and Azeri forces from each other's ground occupied, sending of international observers to the region and calling a CSCE peace conference for Nagorno-Karabakh.

Safarian said the authorities of the disputed territory were awaiting an answer from Azerbaijan which is opposed to a number of the plan's points.

2 Nov Date for CSCE Minsk Group 'Too Soon'

LD1310184193 Baku Radio Baku International Service in English 1700 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] To hold a session of the Minsk group of the CSCE is an end in itself. This the opinion of the Azerbaijani president, Geydar Aliyev. Mr. Aliyev voiced that opinion during his meeting with a CSCE delegation headed by a Swedish diplomat, Mr. Mathias Mossberg.

President Aliyev thinks the idea of holding the session of the Minsk group of the CSCE on 2d November is too soon because the mechanism of settling the conflict is vague and not thoroughly worked out. The terms of the withdrawal of Armenian armed forces from the occupied areas of the Republic of Azerbaijan haven't yet been fixed.

During the meeting with Mr. Aliyev, Mr. Mossberg stated that the CSCE considers it necessary for the conflicting sides to conclude a an agreement between themselves for the effective settlement of the conflict. The CSCE is ready to act as a mediator on arranging a bilateral meeting of the conflicting sides [passage indistinct].

President Aliyev stated that Azerbaijan desired to create more favorable conditions for achieving peace without violating its own national interests. He also pointed out that the CSCE should more objectively assess the situation and should seek ways for the more just settlement of the conflict.

The Azerbaijanian president stated that we are surprised at the hastiness with which the CSCE is striving to convene the peace conference in Minsk when there are no conditions for the final settlement of the conflict.

In conclusion, the Azerbaijani president expressed his hope that his country's desires will be taken into account. He also stated Azerbaijan's support of the efforts of the CSCE but we don't want our steps towards settling the conflict in a peaceful manner to infringe upon our own national interests.

State Adviser Criticizes New Peace Plan

LD1210191593 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1424 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Azerbaijan's State Foreign Policy Advisor Vafa Guluzade has criticized the new schedule for settling the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict proposed by the CSCE's Minsk Group during the recent consultations in Paris.

Guluzade told Interfax that whereas Azerbaijan's proposals had been disregarded, the Armenian ones had influenced the essence of the document.

He expressed surprise that the list of Azerbaijani territories which are to be cleared of Armenian forces does not mention the Shusha region (part of Nagorno-Karabakh) and the Lachin region. At the same time, the Azerbaijani forces are to leave the Akderi (Mardakert) region which is also in Nagorno-Karabakh. Guluzade stated that the provision obliging the Azerbaijani army to leave Nagorno-Karabakh was inadmissible. Neither will Baku accept the reference to the Karabakh's current administration as "the leadership of Nagorno-Karabakh," he said.

In Guluzade's opinion, the CSCE plan does not have any specific mechanism of ensuring the return of the refugees.

According to Baku, Armenian formations control about 20 percent of Azerbaijani territory.

Foreign Ministry Statement on Presidential Elections

LD0910224093 Baku Radio Baku International Service in English 1700 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Excerpts] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan has made a statement. This concerns (?the fact) presidential elections were held in this country on 3 October. There were three nominees for the presidency. The elections stirred up great interest abroad. In this connection a great number of representatives of foreign countries had arrived in this republic as international observers. [passage omitted]

According to numerous comments, the presidential elections were held legally and in conformity with democratic principles. No violation of the law on presidential elections or of the constitutional rights of electors was observed at polling stations. All necessary conditions were created to ensure the participation of refugees and displaced persons in the elections in those places where they have temporarily settled. Representatives of most political parties and movements of this republic were included in the district electoral (?commissions). All the international observers and the foreign journalists who were accorded proper freedom to visit any polling station they liked [words indistinct]. They had numerous meetings with voters representing different parts of the public and with all the three nominees for the presidency, and familiarized themselves with substantive provisions of their election platforms.

Correspondents of leading news agencies of the world extensively reported progress. In spite of the complicated social and political situation in this country as a result of Armenia's aggression, the citizens of Azerbaijan displayed high political activity during the elections. About 98 percent of eligible voters came out to the polls. The overwhelming majority of them, about 99 percent, voted for the current leader of Azerbaijan, Geydar Aliyev. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan states that the presidential elections in this republic were held in compliance with universally accepted international democratic norms. The ministry expresses confidence that the results of this election will promote the maintenance of democratic principles for the welfare of the Azerbaijani people. We presented to you the summary account of the statement made by the Azerbaijanian Foreign Ministry in connection with the presidential elections held in this country.

Aliyev Inauguration 10 Oct; Constitution Amended

LD1010050693 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0425 GMT 10 Oct 93

[By AZERTAC correspondents Alla Baula and Dzhamilya Kuliyeva]

[Text] Baku, 10 Oct—Geydar Aliyev, the new Azerbaijani president, is to be sworn in in Baku today. At an extraordinary sitting on 9 October, deputies of the National assembly (parliament) examined a number of issues linked to the inauguration.

Apart from this, deputies introduced a number of amendments and additions to the present republican Constitution. For example, the words and descriptions "soviet," "socialist," "communist," and other terms characteristic of the Soviet era were removed from the text of the Main Law.

Aliyev Sworn In

LD1010123493 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1148 GMT 10 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Sevindzh Abdullayeva and Viktor Shulman, and AZERTAC correspondent Geychakkhanum Tagiyev]

[Text] Baku, 10 Oct—Today Geydar Aliyev took the presidential oath by the Azerbaijani Constitution and on the Koran. He was elected Azerbaijani head of state a week ago.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony, the president singled out his main tasks as strengthening Azerbaijan's statehood and increasing the prosperity of its people. In the economic sphere, the head of state is giving preference to reforms aimed at creating a civilized market. He believes that the republic's entry into the CIS will create favorable conditions for this.

Geydar Aliyev noted in particular that he will make every effort to bring the republic out of the state of war, to return lands occupied by Armenian armed forces, to ensure the country's territorial integrity and the nonviolability of its borders, and to return refugees to their homes.

Azerbaijan's foreign policy will be constructed on the principles of equal and mutually profitable cooperation with all states, the president said.

Aliyev Takes Presidential Oath

NC1010210393 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 10 Oct 93

[Excerpts] Geydar Aliriza oglu Aliyev took the presidential oath today. State Secretary Lala Shovkat Gadzhiyev opened the jubilant swearing-in ceremony with a short speech. [passage omitted]

Later, Dzhafar Veliyev, head of the Central Election Council, presented the presidential [word indistinct] to President Geydar Aliyev. Veliyev said that the Central Election Council met on 6 October and, in accordance with article 15 of Azerbaijan's law on presidential elections, decided to declare Geydar Aliriza ogly Aliyev the elected president of the Republic.

Geydar Aliriza ogly Aliyev received the votes of 98.3 percent of the people who cast ballots in the presidential election, or 3,919,923 votes. [passage omitted]

Later, Shaykh ul-Islam Allakhshukyur Pasha-zade, chairman of the Supreme Religious Council of the Caucasus Peoples, blessed President Aliyev. The leaders of the Russian Orthodox Church and the religious Jewish community also blessed Aliyev.

President Aliyev's speech received a lengthy applause. He sincerely thanked all the citizens and assured them that he will channel all his effort and dedicate his entire life to achieve the people's hopes. He also said that he

has been elected to serve in a responsible post as a result of the trust the people have vested in him.

While taking the presidential oath, Geydar Aliyev said:

[Begin Aliyev recording] Esteemed fellow countrymen, today is an important and symbolic day. I wish to express my respects and deep gratitude to Azerbaijan's citizens for their worthy confidence once again. I also wish to assure them that I shall faithfully serve Azerbaijan's people until the end of my life and devote all my work to Azerbaijan's development in the future. [applause]

I place my hand on Azerbaijan's Constitution and swear that I shall devote my knowledge, faith, and strength to the prosperity of Azerbaijan and its people. [applause]

I swear that I shall fulfill my presidential duties for the achievement of lofty objectives and goals and spare no effort in the struggle I shall wage to safeguard Azerbaijan's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. [applause]

I swear that I shall guarantee the implementation of Azerbaijan's Constitution and laws and maintain and safeguard the rights and freedoms of Azerbaijan's citizens, regardless of their religious and ethnic origins.

I swear that I shall guarantee the recognition of democratic [word indistinct] and freedoms in Azerbaijan and the development of the Republic as a democratic and lawful state. I shall faithfully serve Azerbaijan and its people and work to see that Azerbaijan occupies a meritorious place in the UN organization and among the countries of the world. [applause]

I place my hand on the Koran to swear that I shall always be faithful to the people's national and moral traditions and that I shall guarantee that these traditions are restored and maintained in Azerbaijan. [applause] [end recording] [passage omitted]

Georgia

Shevardnadze Says Most Support CIS Membership

LD1210205793 Moscow INTERFAX in Engllish 1753 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] According to Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze, the time of signing of a comprehensive treaty between Russia and Georgia is to be determined upon Russian President Boris Yeltsin's return from Japan. "This treaty will be signed in Tbilisi," Shevardnadze emphasized at a briefing on Monday.

Speaking on the internal political situation in the republic, Shevardnadze noted that "we should first solve the problems of Western Georgia and then think about Abkhazia." The Georgian leader qualified the actions of Georgian ex-president Zviad Gamsakhurdia as "amoral."

Shevardnadze also underlined that 70 percent of Georgia's population support the decision to join the Commonwealth. He is convinced that "the parliament should take this into consideration."

Chairman of the Committee on State of Emergency in Georgia and leader of the paramilitary grouping Mkhedrioni Dzhaba Ioseliani has also expressed his backing of Georgia's decision to join the CIS. In his interview with INTERFAX he underlined that "there is no alternative for Georgia."

While rendering its support for the decision of the Head of State to join the CIS, in its statement distributed on Monday the political council of Georgia's Social Democratic Party said that this decision has been adopted with a great delay.

Now, the authors of this statement believe, all efforts should be aimed at preserving and strengthening Georgia's territorial integrity and its independence within the CIS.

At the same time, the statement continues, the Commonwealth is "an entity without backbone" in the form in which it now exists. It inadequately reflects the level of actual integration of the states which were part of the former USSR.

According to the political council, Georgia can have its say "on the gradual transformation of the CIS into a Euro-Asian house which, like the European community, will have common coordinating bodies and a multinational secretariat headed by a general coordinator."

Political Reaction Noted

LD1210225293 Tbilisi CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY in Russian 1700 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] [no dateline as received] It has already been reported that the fact of Georgia's joining the CIS was interpreted in leading political circles of the republic in different ways. We present views of a number of statesmen, leaders of parties, and political associations.

Rusuadan Beridze, a deputy speaker of the Georgian Supreme Council considers that "in a moral aspect the country has fallen on its knees. In a political aspect it has lost its freedom, for which it paid at such a dear price. In an economic aspect it does not give us anything. At the moment, we keep feeling unbearable pain for everything, for Abkhazia, for dead sons, for homeless children. The time of comprehension will come later."

Guram Muchaidze, an MP, the chairman of the Georgian Social Democratic Party has fully supported the head of state's decision remarking that "this step should have been taken earlier."

Akaki Asatiani, an MP, the chairman of the Union of Georgian Traditionalists believes that "the CIS, if it were so necessary, should have been joined earlier, before everything started." At the moment, the leader of traditionalists cannot see any sense in it. In his view

"joining the CIS now turns out to have happened not voluntarily, but under pressure."

Davit Berdzenishvili, an MP, the head of the Republican Party said that their [republicans] "attitude toward joining the Commonwealth has been, and remains negative. We consider this step as the incapacity of the leadership of the country to solve political, economic, and regional tasks independently."

Zurab Zhvania, an MP, the chairman of the Georgian Greens Party expresses the view that there is no definite decision on joining the CIS yet. Only an idea is being discussed, "an idea that needs to be seriously discussed." He emphasized that "it is necessary to clear out what we are going to acquire in case we join, and what we are going to lose in case we reject [the idea]."

Mikheil Naneishvili, an MP, the chairman of the Georgian National Liberal Democratic Party speaks against the republic's membership of the CIS calling this decision "a political failure, that will be recorded as huge liabilities to the present authorities," since this is "a step back."

Foreign Minister on CIS Commitments

LD1310185793 Tbilisi CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY in Russian 1810 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] [no dateline as received] Georgian Foreign Affairs, Minister Aleksandre Chikvaidze said that peacemaking forces from Russia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan would arrive in Georgia during the coming fortnight to guard the points of major importance in our country. The Foreign Ministry head has elucidated that the forces will mainly consist of Russian servicemen. The participation of the other two republics is purely symbolic.

Chikvaidze voiced hope that with Georgia's joining the CIS, the standpoint of the Russian Federation leadership toward relations with the republic would change.

Youth Movement Opposes CIS

LD1310205593 Tbilisi CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY in Russian 1810 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] A meeting of youth organizations of the republic was held in Tbilisi On 11 October. The meeting decided to merge the organizations into a single youth movement "The New Generation".

The newly established organization thoroughly deplored the head of state's decision that Georgia should join the CIS and announced its strong intention to keep fighting for Georgia's independence and restoration of its statehood.

Republican Party Opposes Membership

LD1310212093 Tbilisi First Program Television Network in Georgian 1700 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Today, the Republican Party and its parliamentary faction held a news conference for Georgian and foreign journalists in the Oval Hall of the Georgian parliament. The principal subject of the news conference was Georgia's joining the CIS.

Questions were answered by deputies Vakhtang Gabidadze, Vakhtang Khmaladze, Ivliane Khaindrava, and Davit Berdzenishvili as representatives of the party.

In their view, the declaration of Georgia as a CIS member is not justified for two major reasons: the preservation of the country's integrity and progress toward democracy must be settled first.

The Republicans believe that relations with Russia cannot remove the numerous problems that have risen in Georgia and it is impossible to built a country using an outside force. Georgia should rely on its own efforts and the reserves existing in the state. However, the speakers have failed to give specific expression to what power and reserve we possess to do this.

The Republicans believe that the statute which implies Georgia's CIS membership has plenty of restrictions and they said that if the parliament agrees to Georgia's joining the CIS they would leave the parliament. Although they also remarked that they were ready for discussions.

Joint Action With Russia Not Ruled Out

PM1210105293 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Oct 93 p 3

[Report by Vitaliy Alekseyev and Kirill Petrov: "Russia and Georgia Sign Military Agreement"]

[Text] Servicemen of the Group of Russian Forces in the Transcaucasus are saying good-bye to their comrades in arms who fell at the hands of the "Zviadists" in Zugdidi 4 October. The bodies of Senior Lieutenant I. Popov, Sergeants S. Rau, A. Borisov, and A. Bunenko, and Private A. Litvinenkov will be sent home. According to the latest information, in the battle near the city of Khoni the five Russian motorized infantrymen took out some 70 "Zviadists" and put out of action a tank, an armored carrier, and a "Grad" launcher. After their capture, before being shot, they were physically abused...

In a statement issued by the Group of Russian Forces in the Transcaucasus, the entire blame for what happened is pinned on Zviad Gamsakhurdia, Loti Kobaliya, and their supporters.

Major General Vasiliy Belchenko, assistant commander of the Group of Russian Forces in the Transcaucasus, stated at a press conference that the possibility of joint operations by the Group of Russian Forces in the Transcaucasus and Georgian government troops against the ex-president's armed detachments has not been ruled out.

At 1520 on 10 October two Georgian Air Force Su-25's attempted a strike on Colonel Loti Kobaliya's positions, but hit... the 1st Border Post of the North Caucasus Border District's Batumi Border Detachment. Privates

V. Popov and V. Tokmakov were injured. They are now in Batumi hospital. Captain 2d Rank Sergey Strizhov, officer of the operations group of the North Caucasus Border District staff, reported that the official Georgian authorities apologized and gave assurances that it would not happen again. On 9 October Russian serviceman Lieutenant Colonel V. Drobitko was killed while clearing mines at the water supply station in Sukhumi.

The political instability in Georgia is of course affecting the conditions of the Russians' service in that country. With the signing of the military cooperation agreement between Russia and Georgia in Moscow 9 October—the document was signed by Colonel General Mikhail Kolesnikov, chief of the Russian Armed Forces General Staff, and Brigade General Avtandil Tskitishvili, chief of the Georgian Armed Forces General Staff—the status of the Group of Russian Forces in the Transcaucasus is finally formalized. the sides have assumed certain commitments. Russian garrisons will be located in Tbilisi, Batumi, and Akhalkalaki. The Russian Army is leasing the port of Poti and several military airfields. Russia will pay the rent in energy sources.

Pacts Signed on Russian Troops' Status

LD1310151393 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Report by correspondent N. Kandiashvili from Georgia; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The treaty on the legal status of troop formations of the Russian Federation temporarily stationed on the territory of the Republic of Georgia has at last been signed. Also signed were 18 agreements regulating the passage of Russian troop trains though the territory of Georgia, the use by Russian troops of postal and electric power communications and radio frequencies, the joint utilization of training grounds, ports, airfields and firing ranges, the security of flights and sea navigation, and also a number of measures of rendering assistance to Russian troops. These documents are to be regarded as a basis for the development of bilateral relations in the military sphere. At the talks that preceded the conclusion of the agreements there was no discussion of the possibility of supplying Georgia with Russian military hardware. However, in the opinion of Georgian military commanders, in the future the sides should discuss not only this problem but also other questions connected with the provision of Russian help to the construction of the Armed Forces of Georgia. [Video shows aircraft at airfield, military convoy of trucks, banner showing "GKChS Rossii"—Russian State Committee for Emergency Situations—naval vessel at sea, street scene, view from aircraft porthole taking off, large transport plane marked "U.S. Air Force"]

Chikvaidze Denies Arrival of Russian Troops

LD1410082193 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0600 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Georgian Foreign Minister Aleksandr Chikvaidze denied categorically the statement, alleged by various foreign mass media to have been made by him, that armed units from Russia would soon arrive in Georgia. Talking to TASS correspondent Yuriy Kobzon, the minister said that he had never made such a statement and that the words spread as his are a downright lie.

Answering a question by the correspondent on the arrival of Russian troops in Georgia, Colonel Aleksandr Demyanov, the senior officer of the press center of the group of Russian troops in Transcaucasia said that he did not know anything about it. He said: we have no reports of that kind. In my personal view this should not happen.

Shevardnadze Meets U.S. Envoy, Delegation Helping Refugees

LD1310092493 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1900 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] According to CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY, today the chairman of the Georgian parliament and head of state, Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze met the U.S. ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Georgia, Mr. Kent Brown and a delegation from the United States helping refugees. This is the delegation that brought humanitarian aid, foodstuffs, and medicines for refugees from Abkhazia by air a few days ago.

The delegation visited Kutaisi, Mestia, and Chuberi [the latter two in Svaneti] yesterday and witnessed the extremely difficult situation of the refugees. They handed them humanitarian aid. More importantly, the delegation is drawing up a short-term plan that stipulates urgent aid for refugees before the arrival of winter. The delegation will also assess the current situation and upon returning to the United States, will report the situation to a group, which, in turn, will plan future medium-term and long-term aid.

Eduard Shevardnadze said: I often use the word catastrophic. You have realized that the situation is really catastrophic, and therefore, we have nothing but words of gratitude, regardless of the size of your aid.

It was pointed out at the meeting that until the end of the month aircraft carrying humanitarian aid from the United States will be landing at our airport every day.

Ukrainian Air Force Evacuates 5,000 Refugees From Mountains

LD1410081693 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0200 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] The first Ukrainian helicopter crews who began evacuating refugees from Abkhazia on 10 October have

completed their mission. They have transported more than 5,000 refugees from the mountain passes to Kutaisi.

Ukrainian helicopters arrived in Kutaisi four days ago in the morning, and just two hours later they had made their first flight to mountainous Svaneti to rescue refugees, a UKRINFORM correspondent was informed by Yuriy Petrov, chief of staff of the Ukrainian Air Force. Many of the refugees were in a critical condition, and the help arrived just in time. Seventeen crews have each been making two or three flights a day, delivering bread, flour, and other foodstuffs to the mountain passes, and carrying away casualties.

Two Killed in Armed Attack in Western Georgia

LD1210223693 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1942 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] On Tuesday seven unknown people carried out an armed attack against employees of the Sachkhere Interior Department and local fighters of a Georgian battalion, in Western Georgia, the press center of the Georgian Interior Ministry reported to Interfax.

Four people were heavily wounded as a result of this attack. Two of them, an employee of the Interior Ministry's special inspectorate and a fighter, died in the hospital.

An Ossetian, Vilen Dzhioyev, was killed during an exchange of fire, identification found on him certified that he was a member of the peacekeeping battalion deployed in the Tskhinvali Region.

Heavy Fighting Said 'Raging' in Samtredia

LD1210173593 Tbilisi First Program Television Network in Georgian 1700 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] We have just received a report that at 1830 forces loyal to Gamsakhurdia opened intense fire on government forces and the town of Samtredia. The government troops were forced to return fire. At the moment, two-way shelling from guns and heavy equipment is raging.

Details of Fighting in West Reported

LD1310104393 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0900 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] It is now 1215 [0915 GMT]. We have just received this report: The head of the press center of the government forces in western Georgia has told the CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY that at dawn illegal armed formations again shelled government forces and the town of Samtredia, using artillery installations and heavy weaponry. Government forces returned fire and destroyed one enemy tank and one artillery installation. The opposite side suffered casualties. The fighting lasted for about half an hour. The illegal armed formations pulled back their equipment and manpower.

They have also attempted to launch an attack on Khoni, which government forces repelled after an hour-long battle.

The sides' positions in the Khoni and Poti directions have not changed.

Gamsakhurdia 'Offensive' Cuts Batumi-Yerevan Rail Link

LD1310180693 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1327 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] The Batumi-Yerevan railway stopped operating late on Monday [11 October]. INTERFAX says this was due to the offensive carried by supporters of the former Georgian President Zviad Gamsahurdia in western Georgia, involving the city of Samtredia where the railway passes.

In an interview with INTERFAX Wednesday, spokesman for the Armenian Government Vladimir Manoyan said that the Armenian government had a telephone conversation with the Georgian leadership on the resumption of the railway traffic. Manoyan has said that today the railway is the only way connecting Armenia with the outside world.

Shevardnadze Interviewed After Meeting Yeltsin, Others

LD1210123093

[Editorial Report] Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian at 1526 GMT on 11 October carries a 25-minute unscheduled recorded interview with Georgian head of state Eduard Shevardnadze by correspondent Yuriy Rost, entitled: "Eduard Shevardnadze's Difficult Decision." A caption notes that the interview was given on 8 October. The program announcer says that the interview was held "soon after Shevardnadze's meeting with presidents Boris Yeltsin of Russia, Levon Ter-Petrosyan of Armenia and Geydar Aliyev of Azerbaijan.

At the beginning of the program Shevardnadze expresses his satisfaction with his meeting with the three presidents, but stresses that a danger of civil war still remains.

Rost asks: "Georgia lost the war in Abkhazia. I have a question in this connection: To whom did it lose?"

Shevardnadze says: "You know, my fellow countrymen do not always accept my understanding, my view of today's Russia, so to speak. I always say that there is a democratic Russia, so to speak, and there is a reactionary Russia." Shevardnadze then dwells on the topic of the remnants of the totalitarian regime in Russia, and the difficulty of dealing with people like Khasbulatov or Rutskoy.

Rost says: "There have been suggestions that if Shevardnadze were to leave, the war would end. If this were true, would you be prepared to leave?"

Shevardnadze responds: "I have said so on numerous occasions, and in one parliamentary sessions not only did I say so, but I also said that I would not retract my words. But then there was this very moving incident when in literally five minutes people started gathering around the parliament, tens of thousands of people. Let me say that when such a crowd goes on its knees and begs me to stay, what right have I got? I feel very embarrassed to talk about it. So I was willing to leave then, and I am willing now."

Shevardnadze continues talking about the incident and explains that although he may be hated by some, Yeltsin also is not adored by everyone.

Rost asks: "What forces are at the disposal of the armed supporters of Zviad Gamsakhurdia?"

Shevardnadze states: "They have material force, and good weapons. They did say that they would participate in the Abkhaz conflict on the Georgian side, while in fact they participated... [pauses] After the fall of Sukhumi they managed to capture nearly 70 percent of their weapons and ammunition. Therefore they have strong armed units. So, it is not so easy. This is a civil war that has in fact been unleashed. It means that if we do manage to halt it, it will mean for my people..."

Rost interrupts, to ask: "Can you stop it in any way other than the military one?"

Shevardnadze continues: "There are also political means, so to speak".

Rost asks: "You don't think that they have been exhausted?"

Shevardnadze says: "No, not completely exhausted, although they are very limited, very limited indeed. It is difficult to speak to people who always lie; one simply cannot trust them. But we have to try now, we have to try."

The correspondent then asks Shevardnadze to explain a statement he made, saying that he would not leave Sukhumi alive. Shevardnadze says that if he analyzes his own actions just before and after the fall of Sukhumi, he thinks that he was seeking death. He also says: "There is also a feeling of the highest responsibility toward the people, and while I can, I must fight in order to save the country and the people."

Asked if there are any parallels between his position and that of Yeltsin some time ago, Shevardnadze says that it is obviously possible to draw such parallels, but Yeltsin's position is different because his has a different basis of support. He has a financial possibility to carry out reforms, while Georgia is economically weak, and without any real army.

Shevardnadze is then asked if he has supported Yeltsin for personal or political reasons. Shevardnadze replies that he did it for both reasons.

Asked to give his assessment of Gorbachev's reaction to the latest events, Shevardnadze says that he does not agree with Gorbachev's negative reaction to Yeltsin.

Rost then asks Shevardnadze if corruption of power is a necessary attribute of present life, to which Shevardnadze, laughing, replies that in general it is not necessary, but as rule the two go together. The correspondent then goes on to talk about intellectuals, and asks Shevardnadze to explain why intellectuals usually support those in a strong position. Shevardnadze says that intellectuals are the flag carriers for those who fight for democracy.

Rost then says that previously, Russians received parcels with wines and grapes from Georgia, but now it is the Georgians' turn to receive help, but he has no means to send anything to his friends in Tbilisi. He then produces a parcel and asks Shevardnadze to take it with him. Shevardnadze then turns to talk about the difficulties experienced by people in Georgia.

Rost asks: "How do you see future relations between Russia and Georgia?"

Shevardnadze replies: "You know, without Russia, Georgia is not able to survive this harsh ordeal. It is almost impossible. The new world order is not there yet. We are talking a lot about it, about making our planet more manageable. This situation does not exist yet. We need another 10, 15, 20 years to prepare the planet for this. But where is the solution? At least for Georgia, I believe that the solution is to build new relations with Russia, as well as with the West and all other states; but Russia is in a special category, it is a special factor for Georgia, for the TransCaucasus in general. We have been and are striving to achieve this. I think that in this respect today's meeting is a kind of threshhold which will bring us closer to these new relations. By the way, I announced today, and also signed the statement, about Georgia joining the CIS. I did it without consulting the parliament or the people because I came to the conclusion that if I didn't do it now...[pauses] This is the last chance to save the country from the danger of disintegration, and a serious threat of civil war."

He goes on to express his satisfaction with the support from other CIS leaders, and hopes that the majority of the Georgian people will support his move. He says, however, he is weary of the "demagogy" from his opponents. In conclusion he says that he hopes that Russia and Georgia will stay together as equal partners.

Grants Interview to Moscow Paper

PM1210120593 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 12 Oct 93 pp 1,3

[Interview with head of state Eduard Shevardnadze by Yadviga Yuferova in Tbilisi; date not given: "Eduard Shevardnadze: I Thought My Life Had Come to an End"]

[Text] A man with an assault rifle sent me through a metal detector. I showed my pass, presented my passport, and went up to the fourth floor of the Georgian parliament, where head of state Eduard Shevardnadze has his working office. There were taciturn men in the reception area, most of them in camouflage uniform. The somber atmosphere deadened footsteps and caused long faces. There is the same anticipation when you don't know whether the worst has been or is yet to come. I confused the door of the office and a closet door. This was either a mistake on my part or a conspiracy of theirs. One of the most flexible diplomats of the age came to meet me, a man who may be now experiencing the most tragic fall of his life.

[Yuferova] Eduard Amvrosiyevich, on the day Sukhumi fell the world came to a standstill at the impossible news: Shevardnadze's life is in danger. A number of heads of state, including Russia's, offered to help with the evacuation of which you were no longer able to avail yourself. Fate had a chance in a thousand in reserve—you reached Tbilisi on a virtually unserviceable aircraft. That same day a very tough statement was issued: What is happening in Abkhazia is caused not only by internal treachery but also by the actions of external forces and the very difficult relations between Georgia and Russia.

[Shevardnadze] The people, like every person, always have a choice: that of seeking yesterday's villain or finding today's comrade in arms. My opponents, and I have plenty of them, do not perceive that there is a democratic Russia and a reactionary Russia. I can picture the correlation of forces, I know the extent to which people's consciousness has been affected by imperial thinking, how many people are dreaming of a return to the previous totalitarian regime.

We have indeed lost Abkhazia; I would like to believe that this is a temporary thing. If we have ended up in a tragic position, it was reactionary Russia that helped shape fascist separatism in Abkhazia. This is not a matter for today. Yeltsin did indeed try to help somehow with this conflict, but people who should have implemented the president's directives did something completely different.

Do you know what Rutskoy said to me once? He received a telephone call from some extremist in Abkhazia saying that he was having a bad time being oppressed by Georgians. Aleksandr Vladimirovich telephoned me and said (at the time when I had a normal relationship with him we founded a democratic movement together, among the nine of us being Yakovlev, Sobchak, Popov, Shatalin...): "I will scramble a squadron and bomb Tbilisi!" We made no secret of that telephone call and I asked Yeltsin: What kind of statements are these?..

Who was funding Abkhazia? Who was supplying it with munitions and state-of-the-art weapons?

[Yuferova] Is Georgia buying weapons?

[Shevardnadze] Not at all. There are the old ones that we were given when the Soviet Army was divided up. How can we buy weapons when we don't have a single dollar in the state purse... Yet the other side received them. And I'm not talking about the gunmen.

I think that Boris Nikolayevich now realizes what actually happened. I also realize why his scope was limited. What point is there in speaking of blame now... Calamity has struck, a most terrible calamity. I don't know what will happen to this people.

I had a most terrible time in Sukhumi. I thought that my life was coming to an end. But things are just as difficult now: In the hope of being rescued from genocide and slaughter, poorly clothed people are forcing their way down mountain tracks, where there is already snow on the ground.

[Yuferova] How many of them are there, about 20,000?

[Shevardnadze] No, over 40,000-45,0000. But who has been counting... The premier has based himself there now. He is screaming, crying, and causing a hullabaloo; he doesn't know what to do. Several rescue helicopters have crashed owing to poor weather conditions. An International Red Cross mission is helping, as are neighboring states...

Russia in a statement described the exodus of the Georgian population as genocide, which must be condemned by the international courts. So far these are just words, but it is nonetheless important. [Shevardnadze ends]

(I know that during the conversation Eduard Amvrosiyevich had asked that his aides only telephone him in an emergency. The first telephone call came. He did not disregard it, he ran the length of the long conference table at which we were talking to his desk. Brief sentences followed, then he returned slowly to the table with even more of a stoop).

[Shevardnadze] I have been informed that they have captured Samtredia and are smashing up the whole city—that was how they started in Sukhumi.

[Yuferova] You're referring to the armed formations that sided with ex-president Zviad Gamsakhurdia? Is the overt confrontation by the Tskhenistskali River during the fighting in Abkhazia, when the nation split in half, continuing?

[Shevardnadze] This is destructive confrontation. That was the first sign that the people were split when part of the nation ended up on this side of the river and the other part—which betrayed and failed the nation—ended up on the other.

[Yuferova] Do the Zviadists intend to move on Tbilisi?

[Shevardnadze] As far as I know, they do. They intend to capture Samtredia, then Kutaisi, and open the way to Tbilisi.

[Yuferova] Who supports Gamsakhurdia today?

[Shevardnadze] The dark forces. Every nation has them, but I did not think that we had so many. I thought that Georgia was an educated country, I even once cited figures, percentages: We are the world leader in terms of the number of people with a higher education. But that was not at all the case. People may have diplomas, but there is in actual fact a great deal of illiteracy and medieval thinking. Reasonable people must not permit Gamsakhurdia's return. Intellectual Georgia believes that this would spell the tragic end of the state.

[Yuferova] What hope is there today of all-Georgian dialogue?

[Shevardnadze] We must seek ways to dialogue without fail, but... Representatives of some parties are now suggesting that I enter into talks with him. As you know, I was able to talk with anyone in any country of the world, but I cannot do so in my own country with that man. I am organically unable to do this after he virtually took hundreds of thousands of refugees from Abkhazia to the icy mountains of Svanetia to certain death.

I have also contemplated the following scenario: I could suggest to him that I resign, but only if he abandons all claims. I have been told that he will never agree to that. The term of his "presidency" ends 28 October. In 1990 the people elected him for three years. In the last struggle he will now take any action, even the most bloody, to restore his dictatorship. [Shevardnadze ends]

(There was another telephone call. Once again my interlocutor bounded from his seat. "Perhaps we could talk at your desk, Eduard Amvrosiyevich?" "No, this is the only kind of exercise I get now." Once again there came brief sentences, but a different man returned to the conversation, seemingly charged with invisible energy. The answer to the puzzle came immediately).

[Shevardnadze] It was a telephone call from Moscow. Adamishin said that Boris Nikolayevich is willing to immediately hold a meeting of the "Four." [Shevardnadze ends]

(The meeting of the heads of state of Russia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, and Georgia was held in Moscow 8 October and we all still have to evaluate its results—the stabilization of the situation in the Caucasus region if, of course, the accords are put into practice and do not lead to war).

[Shevardnadze] On Russia's black Monday I sent a cable to Boris Nikolayevich saying that I am ready, as in August 1991, to stand beside him on a tank. This morning I telephoned saying that we really must meet.

[Yuferova] What results do you want from this meeting?

[Shevardnadze] I am not ruling out military aid. How long can we go on living like this? The routes crossing Georgia are not only lifelines for us. Armenia, for instance, will now choke after the Zviadists' capture of Poti. They have now started grabbing everything that was heading for Armenia. As for us... We were sent 5.5 tonnes of sugar from Germany in humanitarian aid; yesterday they attacked and seized it. Azerbaijan's and Russia's shipments to the port of Poti are being pillaged in exactly the same way. We all need to decide how to defend these routes. It is always undesirable to use another country's military force, but I don't think there is any other option now.

[Yuferova] Are you sure that your opponents in Georgia will hear where you're coming from?

[Shevardnadze] I will try to persuade them. I have no other option. We are now at the stage where there will be total catastrophe or salvation. There is no other option.

[Yuferova] Eduard Amvrosiyevich, you used to be more forceful with your appeals to the world community than to Russia...

[Shevardnadze] Yes, we did indeed rely on the Security Council and UN peacekeeping forces for a long time. But so far these hopes have come to naught... Good, remarkable resolutions were adopted, but it all came down to 10 observers. That is why we must be realistic, particularly now, when the threat of the dark brown plague has been removed in Russia and we can view Russia with greater trust and speak of new relations.

[Yuferova] Bridges are generally built by both sides. Who will do the building on your side? You have often repeated of late that Georgia is a half-state.

[Shevardnadze] Hard as it is, it is not even a half-state today. The impoverished, plundered country is forced to fight, but certain mechanisms have to be brought into play to build a democratic state. The judiciary must ensure legality, but who can do that fairly amid a civil war? The prosecutor's office and the intelligence service, which we have reorganized to get rid of the old legacy, should be of the proper standard, as should the police, which has been reorganized five times but has still not been been fully shaped, and organs of local self-government, which are still nonexistent. We need peace in order to establish basic order in Georgia and revive the country's economic life so that people can sleep in their homes without the two most terrible feelings—fear and hunger.

[Yuferova] On what forces are you counting, with whom will you build a Georgian state?

[Shevardnadze] When I returned home last spring, there were proposals, and I myself thought about setting up a party, some kind of stable political base, but I abandoned this idea; ideas were needed to consolidate the nation rather than to divide it on party lines. I missed the boat at some point then, but I think that this can be rectified if we escape from the crisis. We are focusing on a new party, a movement is beginning among the intelligentsia. The best thing that Georgia has left today is its men of thought.

[Yuferova] Will you be able to feed your people? It is already fall in Tbilisi and people are worried about one thing: what to eat and how to survive.

[Shevardnadze] That is the saddest question of all. We may have enough grain to last until February. Then famine, real famine may begin.

[Yuferova] With Russian rubles in Tbilisi it feels like having U.S. dollars in my pocket.

[Shevardnadze] We have introduced coupons; I knew that this was a fatal step, but prior to that we received no Russian money for six months. Our coupons are now experiencing incredible inflation, but finances cannot be put straight as long as men with guns are still the main workers.

[Yuferova] Aren't you afraid for your own life, for the life of your family, who are with you in Tbilisi?

[Shevardnadze] I think that I am unusual.

[Yuferova] Pardon me?

[Shevardnadze] Every person is frightened, but my fear has somehow disappeared. That is unnatural; a normal person should be afraid of danger and try to avoid it.

[Yuferova] Your personal physician, who succeeded in escaping alive from Sukhumi via mountain passes with the refugees, described his feeling, saying that you went after the bullets, but they dodged you...

[Shevardnadze] Do you want the truth about that tragic night?

[Yuferova] Yes, I have heard many conflicting stories from various people.

[Shevardnadze] At 0300 hours the military telephoned and said that the best option was to leave Sukhumi—in a high-speed military boat. As agreed, we went to the shore at 0400 hours with some of the guard and lit flashlights. Sure enough a boat appeared, but rockets shot up into the sky from every side and a very heavy bombardment began. We lay low; the firing lasted around 10 minutes.

[Yuferova] Who was doing the firing?

[Shevardnadze] I still don't know what happened. It was the coast guard. Was it ours? Was it the Russian coast guard?

The boat tried again, but the firing was so severe! It became clear that we could not leave by sea. I did not want to land in jail. I could not take the extreme step at that point: That also would have been a bad thing. But if I didn't get shot, how was I going to survive?..

The guys started trying to persuade me to go through the mountains with the stream of refugees. That meant two days' march provided there were no obstacles. I rejected that option. I drove over to the airport. There was indeed a government Yak-40 aircraft there, but the crew and the bulk of my bodyguard weren't there. I don't know how that happened, they may have left for the mountains...

At that moment fate led me to another aircraft, an abandoned Tu-134. I managed to find a pilot. It was now 0600 hours. Some of the crew were also found. I told them that if I did not get out, what had happened to Sukhumi would start throughout Georgia. Make your own decision, I cannot force you, I can only ask you to do this. They said: "We're with you."

There was an 80 percent chance that this was a death trap; the aircraft had many faults and three civil aircraft had already been barbarically downed by the Abkhazians. The glorious guys made up their minds. It turned out that there was only enough fuel to get to Batumi or Kutaisi. We flew to Batumi, no one expected me there, we refueled, and I was in Tbilisi at 0800 hours and back at work at 1000 hours.

[Yuferova] You had to bury your friend, Zhiuli Shartavy, chairman of the Abkhazian Council of Ministers, who did not leave the building until the last minute. The world was horrified at the way the corpse was desecrated. What motivates you now: revenge, hatred, revanchism, desire for justice?

[Shevardnadze] Every person must get over their own grief, no one can do that for you, but they must not be blinded by hatred alone. God the Judge alone cannot manage all the work. I want to remind you how the Zviadists last year tried to capture the television station and then Government House. Some 300 armed men burst into the city. It later proved possible to isolate them. Three or four months later I declared an amnesty and released all of them although they could have caused a shoot-out. And what of it? They all went to Gamsakhurdia to shoot at their own people. Severity is nonetheless needed in affairs of state—justice and severity—and in public consciousness, moreover.

I would also like to hope that the genocide and ethnic cleansing of the Georgian population in Abkhazia perpetrated by the violators of the Sochi truce agreements will elicit protests from people outside Georgia.

[Yuferova] Once, several aeons ago, you said that you keep bees and are very skilled with your hands. What do you have left in life?

[Shevardnadze] I have no personal life left. I sleep at best four hours a night. And if I get that, it's a good night.

These are difficult days, difficult times. If Russia hears where we're coming from now, we are ripe for great change. We can indeed build ideal interstate relations since the dark force has already gone.

Shevardnadze Issues Decree on National Guard

LD1310162993 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1400 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Summary from poor reception] "Eduard Shevardnadze, commander in chief of the Georgian armed forces, has issued a decree on the establishment of a National Guard and of a National Guard authority to manage it." The decree notes that this is done "to secure the defense of" Kutaisi, Samtredia, and Khoni because the supporters of former president Zviad Gamsakhurdia "are actively preparing a large-scale attack" aiming to capture those cities.

The authority will be based in Kutaisi.

According to the decree, "the National Guard units shall be in direct subordination to the head of state" as commander in chief of the Georgian armed forces.

On Setting Up Ministry of Security

LD1310162293 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1400 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Decree issued by Georgian head of state Eduard Shevardnadze on the establishment of the Ministry of Security of the Republic of Georgia]

[Text] 1. The Information and Intelligence Service of the Republic of Georgia shall be transformed into the Ministry of Security of the Republic of Georgia preserving its place in the [word indistinct] of state bodies.

2. The operative department of the Ministry of Interior with its staff and material and technical basis shall come under the authority of the Ministry of Security of the Republic of Georgia.

3. Igor Giorgadze shall present a statute of the Ministry of Security, structure and the list of members of the board for further approval.

4. The Cabinet of Ministers shall present proposed amendments to be introduced in the state legislation.

[signed] Eduard Shevardnadze
[Dated] Tbilisi, 12 September 1993

On New Interior Minister

LD1110183093 Tbilisi First Program Television Network in Georgian 1700 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] By decree of the head of state of the Republic of Georgia, Lieutenant General Shota Kviraia is to be appointed minister of internal affairs of the Republic of Georgia.

Demur Dvalishvili is to be relieved of the duties of president of the National Bank of Georgia. Nodar Javakhishvili is to be appointed president of the National Bank.

Shevardnadze Meets New Security Service Head

LD1210190693 Tbilisi First Program Television Network in Georgian 1700 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Today, Eduard Shevardnadze, the head of state, met the personnel of the Information and Intelligence Service and the new head of this service, Igor Giorgadze. The participants in the meeting talked about the extremely complex current situation in Georgia. Despite the introduction of state of emergency regulations in Georgia, the situation still remains difficult. In conditions like this, the Information and Intelligence Service must become a support for the state.

Eduard Shevardnadze emphasized that total lawlessness was observed in many spheres; narco-business flooded the country; Mafiosi clans controlled various structures. The security service cannot stand aside at such a moment. It must be the first to defend state interests.

Also discussed were the expected structural and cadre changes in the Information and Intelligence Service.

Security Chief Vows To Fight Enemies

LD1310212193 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1717 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Igor Georgadze, Georgia's new intelligence chief, pledges to resolutely fight those "who do their utmost to restore the dictatorial Gamsakhurdia regime in the republic." He had a meeting with journalists Wednesday following his meeting in Tbilisi with the head of state Shevardnadze and Lieutenant General Shota Kviraya—Georgia's new interior minister.

"A war is currently going on in western Georgia on a scale at least equal to that in Abkhazia. Gamsakhurdia supporters who ganged up with Abkhazian separatists recruit saboteur groups from North Caucasus and smuggle weapons into Tbilisi to stage a pro-Gamsakhurdia rebellion," Georgadze said.

He promised to do his best to thwart these designs and to restore the legitimate authorities in Abkhazia.

He supported Shevardnadze's decision to join the CIS. "Terror, sabotage, organized crime, drug trafficking have gained such momentum that we cannot do without cooperation with our colleagues in the neighboring countries, from inside and outside the former USSR and Interpol," Georgadze emphasized.

Georgadze ruled out the possibility of a revival of the time when the KGB was a state within a state saying that the new service would faithfully abide by the law.

Abkhaz Delegation Leader on Dispute With Georgia

BR1210165493 Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT in Dutch 12 Oct 93 p 6

[Article by Bert Lanting: "Abkhazia Will Never Be Part of Georgia Again"]

[Text] Amsterdam—Since last week the United Nations has been trying to arrange negotiations between the Georgian Government and the authorities of the autonomous Abkhaz Republic, which last month was conquered by Abkhaz soldiers. The Abkhaz negotiating delegation made a short visit to the Netherlands for discussions with the UNPO [not further identified], the "alternative United Nations" based in The Hague for peoples which are not represented in the United Nations in New York.

Sokrat Jinjolia, vice president of Abkhazia and leader of the Abkhaz negotiating delegation in Geneva, gives an impression of calmness. It is clear that he is a diplomat and not the junior general of a rebel army that has just driven off the Georgian army. However, despite Jinjolia's diplomatic language, the message is clear: Abkhazia is now standing on its own two feet and is not planning to come under Georgian government ever again.

A grin appeared on Jinjolia's face when he was asked about Abkhazia's present status: Was it an independent state, an autonomous republic, or perhaps something else? "In any event, Abkhazia is no longer part of Georgia," he said, summing up the situation. "The future course must be decided by the people of Abkhazia."

The Western press, Jinjolia complained, has given a one-sided picture of the conflict between Georgia and the Abkhazians. For example, it was wrong to assume that last month it was the Abkhazians who broke the cease-fire, which had been in place since 27 July, by launching a huge offensive against the capital Sukhumi.

In fact it was Georgia which did not keep to the terms of the agreement, which was realized through Russia's mediation, Jinjolia said. The Georgians had promised that they would withdraw all their troops and equipment from Abkhazia in two weeks. Furthermore, the siege of the town of Tkvarcheli, which has been encircled by Georgian troops for about a year, would be lifted and the Abkhazian Government would be allowed to return to Sukhumi, occupied by Georgian troops.

When these conditions had not been met a month and a half later, then Abkhaz soldiers went on the offensive, Jinjolia said. He also wanted to stress that the Georgian troops provoked the attack by an offensive around Tkvarcheli.

The Abkhaz vice president also rejected reports by Georgian refugees and foreign journalists of "ethnic cleansing" and atrocities against Georgians who live in Abkhazia. "Our president, Vladislav Ardzinba, has given assurances that civilians, including Georgians, have nothing to fear from the Abkhaz army," he said. "Reprisals will not be tolerated."

Most Georgians—an estimated 150,000 people have left Abkhazia in the meantime—left of their own volition, before Abkhaz soldiers arrived, according to Jinjolia.

He claimed that it was in fact the Georgian authorities who were guilty of "ethnic cleansing", after Georgian troops invaded Abkhazia last August and occupied Sukhumi. The Georgians, he said, deported tens of thousands of Georgians, Russians, Greeks, and Armenians, and gave their houses to Georgians "imported" from the east of Georgia.

Originally, negotiations between Georgia, Russia, and the Abkhaz Government were to have begun on 30 September in Geneva, led by UN special envoy Edouard Brunner. But the Georgians and Russians did not show up, after which Brunner decided to first talk to the parties separately.

The main aim of the Abkhazians is to achieve new cease-fire agreements. However, negotiations about the future status of Abkhazia were not a possibility, Jinjolia indicated. The future status must be settled by a referendum of the people of Abkhazia.

Jinjolia gave an assurance that all the people who lived in Abkhazia before the start of the war would be allowed to return and vote in the referendum, regardless of their ethnic origin. Was he not afraid that the majority would vote against independence, given that the Abkhazians only account for 17 percent of the population? "As I have mentioned already," Jinjolia said, "the voters must decide for themselves. But I am certain that the Russians, the Greeks, the Armenians, and even a considerable section of the Georgians will support us."

He also pointed out that among the "Georgians," who make up 45 percent of the population, a distinction has to be drawn between true Georgians and Mingrelians. The Mingrelians, who live in western Georgia, also feel suppressed by the Tbilisi government and now support the former Georgian President Gamsakhurdia in the struggle for power with President Shevardnadze.

Jinjolia was not bothered about whether Gamsakhurdia or Shevardnadze won. "Their policy to Abkhazia is the same," Jinjolia said. "The only difference is that Gamsakhurdia is openly nationalistic, while Shevardnadze hides it—that is why he is a diplomat."

In Russia, the Abkhazians could count in particular on the support of Russian nationalists and supporters of the ex-Soviet Union in the parliament. The Yeltsin government tried to adopt a neutral attitude in the conflict.

Were the Abkhazians not afraid that Russia would put them under pressure, now that Yeltsin has broken up the conservative parliament? "No," he said. "How can Russia put us under pressure? We conquered our country ourselves. It is a lie that the Russians helped us."

The proposal of Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev that the parties should retreat to the positions occupied before 27 July was "absurd," he said. "Surely it cannot be expected that we should hand Sukhumi back to the Georgian army?" he said. "Also, that would be against the cease-fire agreements. When Kozyrev says that Georgia is 'indivisible,' then we agree with him, but indivisible within its own borders."